Cookie
RIBON MASCOT COMICS

Gin ni Naru

OKAZAKI Mari

♦1702
Shueisha

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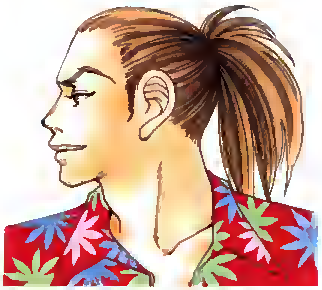
● Contents ●

Gin ni Naru
Sora ni Naru
A summer's fairytale

Ery was living her ordinary, dull high school life, until one day, when she saw a guy in the park. Curiosity made her follow after him, and she reached a skating school. Unhesitatingly, she joins the school, but…

Author's word: Okazaki Mari

Drunk, my editor said to me, "Actually, there's this genre I've wanted you to draw."
"What is it?"
"Figure skating."
"Oh, sure. That fits me perfectly."
I was drunk, too.



Okazaki Mari's comics

Ribon Mascot Comics

Yawarakai Kara
12 Montha
Shibuya District, Maruyama Neighborhood
Gin ni Naru

Margaret Comics

Shutter Love
BX

RMC
RIBON MASCOT COMICS

OKAZAKI Mari

Gin ni Naru

Cookie
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Shueisha

Chapter 01

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Gin ni Naru

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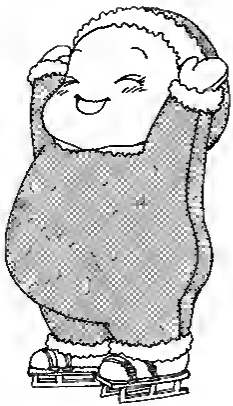


前編
銀になる
Gin ni Naru

How much more time will I have to wait?
HAVE YOU SEEN THEM? THEY'RE SO CUTE
AH I WANT ONE!
BUT WE CAN'T GO IN WITH OUR UNIFORMS! IT SUCKS!
HI, GIRLS!
YOU ARE FROM SEIJO HIGH SCHOOL, AREN'T YOU?

THAT'S NICE BUT NO!
COME ON, JUST FOR AN HOUR! SAY YES!
WHAT SMOOTH TALKERS!
YEAH IT'S A GOOD THING WE CHATTED YOU UP
YOU'RE AWFULLY CUTE!
WE HAVE SOME FREE TIME HOW ABOUT COMING WITH US?
Those two over there? Hmmm, no..
I wonder where my..
lucky star went
SHALL WE GO THROUGH THE PARK?
During that time, my heart remained cold as ice.

without any flame to consume it...
NO! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE!
VERY WELL. IN THAT CASE, THERE'S NO USE CONTINUING!

OH, A LOVERS' QUARREL!
IT'S GOING TO HIT THE FAN!
COME ON I'M SURE YOU CAN DO IT!
I'm waiting ....
for a miracle.

TADA
GOSH!
WHAT IS HE DOING?
HAHA-HAHA!

It happened!
My heart...
It's pounding!
My heart is ablaze!
DOUBTLESSLY A PAIR OF EXES GETTING BACK TOGETHER.
BUT BRY... WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING THEM?
IT'S FREEZING!
LET'S GO HOME?
CHAO
NO. I CAN'T BE MISTAKEN...
WHAT I SAW WAS...

SKATING RINK
Figure skating...
Is a sport I manage better than most people...
But that little extra doesn't exactly thrill me since it's no use for dates...
(Yes, most men don't know how to skate)
THAT CHICK'S REALLY CRAZY
.....
SHH

IS THAT ALL YOU'RE CAPABLE OF FOR YOUR GRAND COMEBACK?
WITH THAT DAMNED BACKACHE... IN ADDITION I'M DEAD TIRED! HEY I FEEL LIKE EATING AN ENORMOUS PLATEFUL OF NOODLES!
SIGH! WELL, I'M GOING HOME I'M FREEZING!
ARE YOU HERE TO WATCH?

PAUSE
AND 1,000,000 YENS (8887 EURO) PER PRIVATE LESSON
IT COSTS 10,000 YENS (AROUND 66 EURO) FOR THE REGISTRATION, THEN 9 000 YENS (60 EURO) EACH MONTH
ERR IN FACT, I'D LIKE TO SKATE HERE
WE ARE NOT REALLY PLAYING "GRANDMOTHER'S FOOTSTEPS"* ARE WE?!
GRAB
GRAB
HM, TO REGISTER, YOU'D BETTER GO DIRECTLY TO THE RECEPTION DESK...
DRAG DRAG DRAG
MISTER KOBAYASHI BE NICE AND TAKE YOUR LITTLE PILLS
SUBP
OSUGI

*Also called Sly Fox, you peep behind the curtain or Black Pudd ng One player with his back to the other players who are standing in a line about 20m away, has to count to 30 or say a rhyme Before he can turn around the players sneak up on him and touch his back without him turning around and seeking them more

SO THAT'S IT? YOU REALLY REGISTERED?
YES
YOU ARE TOO ODD
BUT DO YOU KNOW HOW TO SKATE?
A BIT...
AH, REALLY?
AS IT HOPES YOU TRULY ARE A BIT STRANGE...
sharp!
YOU THINK SO?
TELL ME, THIS GUY, IS HE THAT GORGEOUS?
WELL... ERR...
HEY! LET'S DRINK SOME TEA AT MY HOUSE NEXT WEEK OK?!
YEAH, GOOD IDEA!
CAN I COME TOO?
DEAL ME IN!
I think...
that you are the oddballs by getting excited for nothing...

Beginner's course
YOU GRASPED THE ESSENCE OF ICE SKATING!
HE'S NOT SPECIALLY "GORGEOUS," BUT...
VERY GOOD, MISS OGAWA!
TOO SLOW! DON'T LAG!
DO YOU WANT ME TO PUSH YOU OR WHAT?
HE'S AN SM KIND!
SM-sado-masochist
"Well, I'd like to take lessons with that man over there"
"What?! Mr Kobayashi?! But... He's a bit... How shall I say "
"He's an excellent teacher, however "
"Of course, if you aim for the Olympic Games, he's the perfect choice, but "

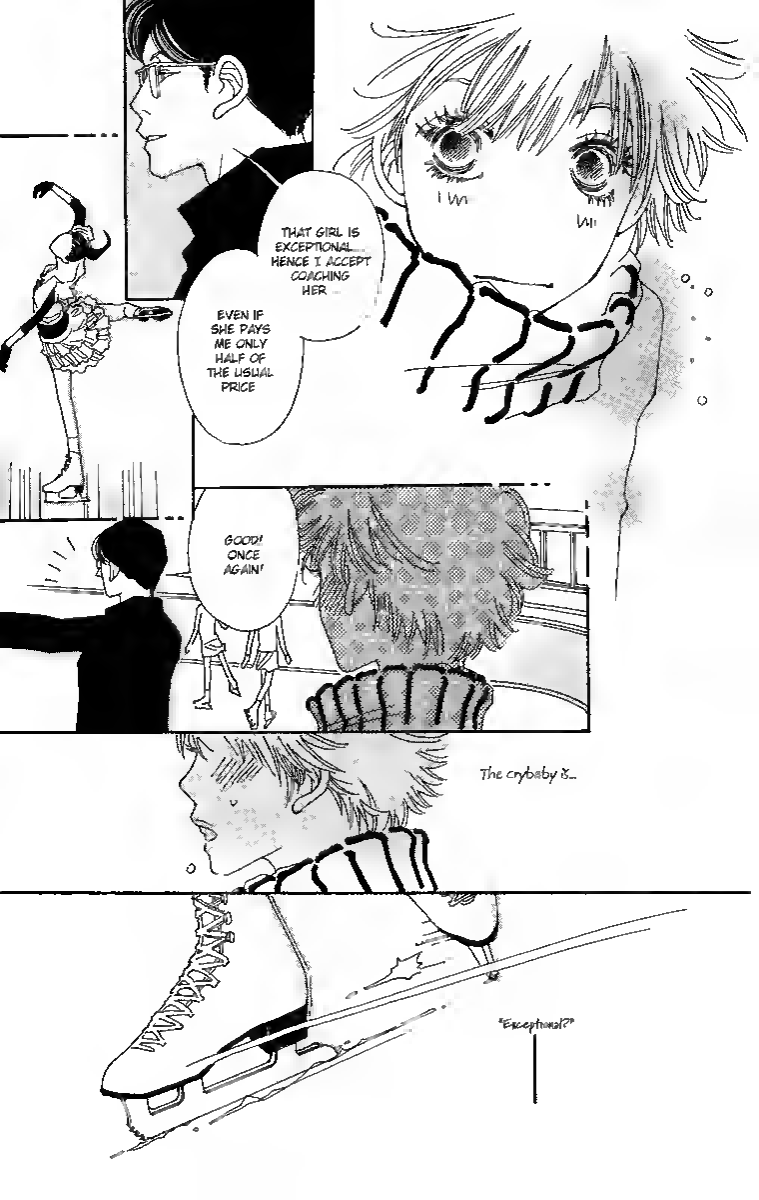
YOU ARE WRONG. I'M VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.
Don't talk so loudly
Tell me!
SIR, WHY DOES EVERY-ONE HATE YOU?
I'M ONLY HERE TO GIVE YOU PRIVATE LESSONS
NO!
MY NAME IS ERY OGAWA, I'M SIXTEEN
LONELY
So? So?
SAD, ISN'T IT?
HOWEVER, YOU ARE ALWAYS ALONE
I KNOW, BUT YOU ARE AWFULLY EXPENSIVE! WHY ARE YOU ASKING FOR SO MUCH?
BUT TO MAKE A LOT OF CASH, OF COURSE! WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
HE TRIES TO EXPRESS HIMSELF LIKE AN ADULT
MONEY RULES THE WORLD!
YOU SOUND LIKE AN ADOLES-CENT...

AN ICE SKATING TRAINER.
HAS ALWAYS COLD AND ACHING FEET. HE EARNS LITTLE MONEY, IS NEVER INVITED TO PARTIES. WORKS LIKE CRAZY.
SO, DON'T SAY IT'S A GOOD IDEA.
WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IS TO MAKE DOUGH AND STOP!
.....
HE'S LYING.
NEVERTHELESS, YOU LOOKED PASSIONATE THE OTHER DAY!
.....
EH? WHEN?
WELL...
AT THE PARK WITH THE CRYBABY

HE LOOKS SO EMBAR-RASSED...
THAT'S TOTALLY WRONG!
AH, REALLY? HEY, MISTER
OUR EYES JUST MET
THAT'S ENOUGH! GO BACK TO YOUR LESSON!
BUT IT'S OVER!
SIR?

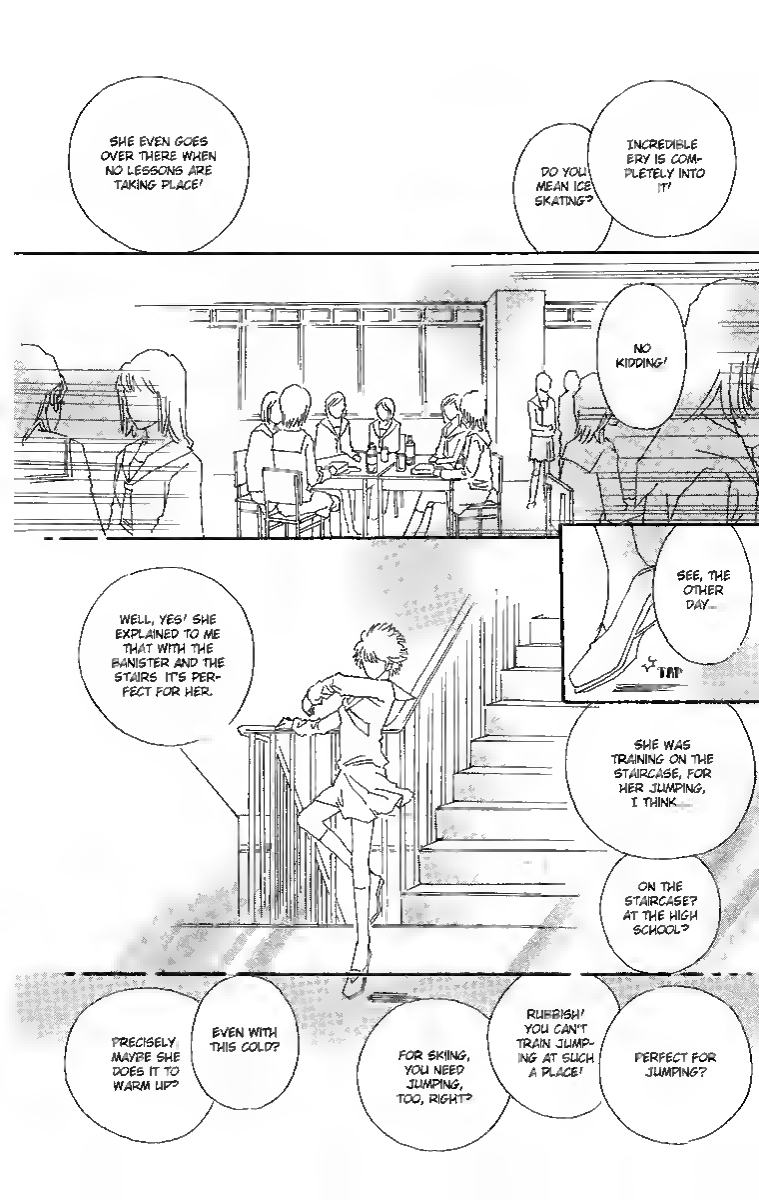
OH, THE CRYBABY!
PLEASE WATCH ME, I'M GOING TO TRY THE JUMP COMBINATIONS FROM EARLIER... I THINK I CAN DO IT...
OK. SHOW ME
I SEE! THAT GIRL IS A RICH PERSON WHO CAN BUY HERSELF YOUR SERVICES!
SEX MANIAC!
YOU WATCH TOO MANY AMERICAN SOAP OPERAS!
SHE'S NOT LIKE THAT...
WATCH HER BEFORE YOU UTTER ANYMORE OF YOUR NONSENSE...
SEX

DO YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT ICE SKATING?
A TRIPLE AXEL?!
YOU KNOW, ONLY A FEW PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO EXECUTE THIS JUMPING WITH SUCH EASE IN JAPAN...


THAT GIRL IS EXCEPTIONAL... HENCE I ACCEPT COACHING HER...
EVEN IF SHE PAYS ME ONLY HALF OF THE USUAL PRICE
GOOD! ONCE AGAIN!
The crybaby is...
"Exceptional?"

AAAAH!
SHE
SPAAASSSH!
ERR, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
OUCH OUCH OUCH
I'M COLD
PHEW

I WOULD LIKE...
TO BE "EXCEPTIONAL," TOO
NO, DO NOT SLOW DOWN!
ONE TWO AND...
THAT'S IT!
She's wanting to try out a jump
NEXT ONE


SHE EVEN GOES OVER THERE WHEN NO LESSONS ARE TAKING PLACE!
DO YOU MEAN ICE SKATING?
INCREDIBLE ERY IS COMPLETELY INTO IT!
NO KIDDING!
SEE, THE OTHER DAY...
TAP
WELL, YES! SHE EXPLAINED TO ME THAT WITH THE BANISTER AND THE STAIRS IT'S PERFECT FOR HER.
SHE WAS TRAINING ON THE STAIRCASE, FOR HER JUMPING, I THINK...
ON THE STAIRCASE? AT THE HIGH SCHOOL?
PRECISELY MAYPE SHE DOES IT TO WARM UP?
EVEN WITH THIS COLD?
FOR SKIING, YOU NEED JUMPING, TOO, RIGHT?
RUBBISH! YOU CAN'T TRAIN JUMPING AT SUCH A PLACE!
PERFECT FOR JUMPING?

SO THAT'S THE REASON SHE NEVER COMES WITH US DURING BREAK TIME...
WHISPER
THAT CHICK...
WHISPER
SHE'S REALLY EXTREMELY STRANGE...
WHISPER
YES, NOW YOU MENTION IT...
WHISPER
TELL ME, DON'T YOU THINK HER HAIRSTYLE IS FUNNY?
MISTER! ♪
SIT!
To the kennel!
DO I LOOK LIKE A DOGGY?
YOUR LESSON IS OVER THERE!
BUT ERR... I WANT TO HAVE LESSONS WITH YOU!
IT'S ONE MILLION YENS, PLUS VTA...

VTA= Value added tax

HOW DOES YOUR GIRLFRIEND COPE WITH SUCH A CHEAPSKATE? SHE'S GOING TO DITCH YOU!
Eh?
I DON'T HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND.
Me, a cheapskate? What a thought!
WHAT?! YOU DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?!
TURN THE VOLUME DOWN, WILL YOU?
MOREOVER, I DON'T SEE WHAT
BEND
STRETCH
WHAT WAS THAT WEIRD MOVE?
HMMM?

THIS NEWS JUST MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY!
OH, BUGGER ALL...
Every evening when the ice rink is almost empty I train my jumps.
& our own breathing and the metal blades cutting into the ice.
The only noise the ice rink is sending back to us...
SWISH
scratch
scratch
scratch
thud

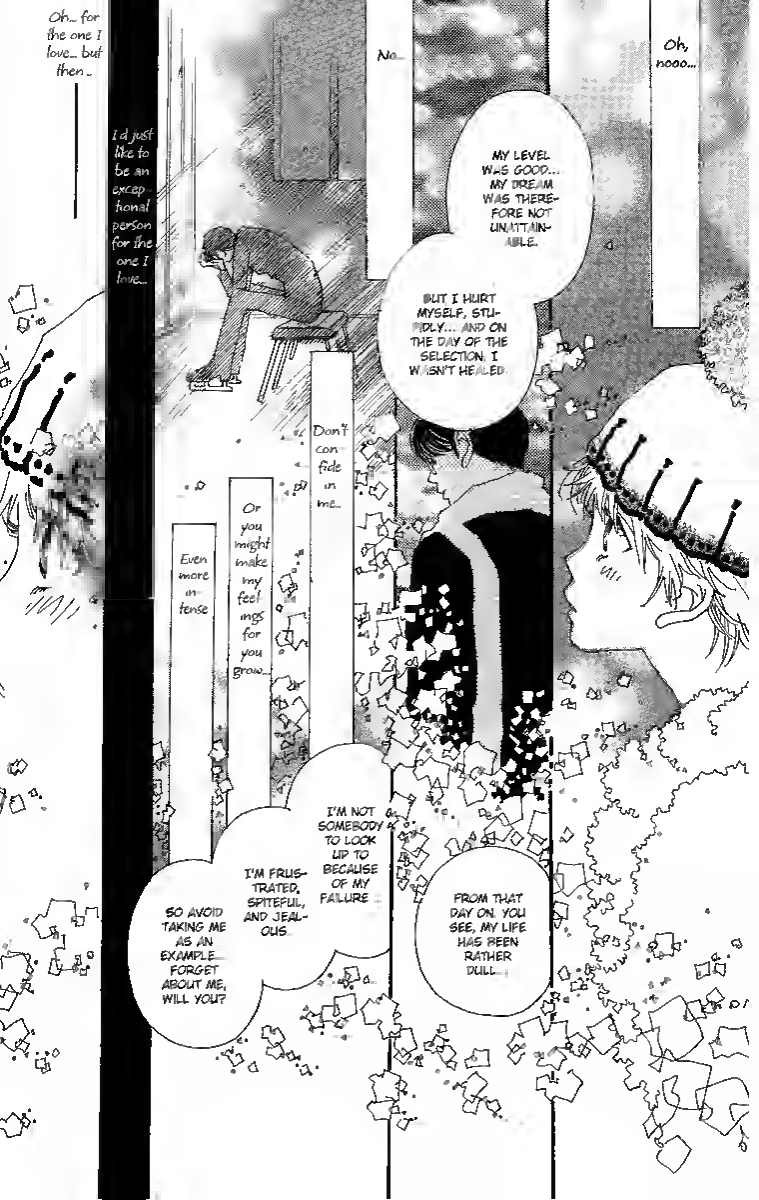
BE CAREFUL AT YOUR AGE
THE SKIN IS STARTING TO MARK AND BRUISES FADE AWAY MUCH SLOWER
HAVE YOU BEEN THERE FOR A LONG WHILE?
YES
ENOUGH TO NOTE YOU FALL WAY TOO OFTEN! DO YOU THINK PERHAPS YOU ARE DOING JUDO?
Hmm, sorry!
IN ADDITION, YOU ARE DAMAGING THE RINK COME ON, STOP IT
ALL RIGHT
BUT AAAAH!
EVERYBODY IS GONE?!
THAT SUCKS!
WAIT! AFTER AN INTENSIVE TRAINING, YOU NEED....
OUCH!

TO RELAX YOUR LEG MUSCLES THEY ARE SO CONTRACTED YOU'LL HAVE TROUBLE WALKING
SIT DOWN I'M GOING TO MASSAGE YOU
MISTER.....

FEELS NICE
WHAT?
YEAH. THAT'S THE PRICE OF A MASSAGE! YOU WILL REPAY ME WHEN YOU ARE RICH
THAT'S 100,000 YEN
THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH ME! I PROMISE YOU I'LL EARN LOTS OF MONEY!
AND THEN I'LL BE ABLE TO PAY FOR YOUR SERVICES, DO YOU AGREE?
OOOW!
WELL, IT'S OVER!

IT'S SO LATE ALREADY?
I HAVEN'T SEEN TIME WENT BY! I'M GLAD...
TO HAVE TRAINED FOR SO LONG! USUALLY, THE SECURITY GUARD NEEDS TO CHASE ME AWAY BUT...
MR. KOBAYASHI...
CAN I CLOSE?
YES, GO AHEAD
EXCUSE ME, BUT COULD YOU REFRAIN FROM PROLONGING YOUR LESSONS WITHOUT WARNING...
OF COURSE PLEASE EXCUSE US.
The winter cold...
Seems even fiercer under the street lights...

I WAS AN ICE SKATER...
FORMERLY...
BUT I KNOW THAT'S NOT TRUE!
ICE SKATING IS YOUR PASSION, ISN'T IT?
I TOLD YOU ALREADY THAT THIS JOB IS PURELY TO BUY ME FOOD!
I WAS YOUNG AND OBVIOUSLY HOPED TO GO TO THE OLYMPICS.
Oh...


Oh... for the one I love... but then...
I'd just like to be an exceptional person for the one I love...
No...
Oh, nooo...
MY LEVEL WAS GOOD... MY DREAM WAS THEREFORE NOT UNATTAINABLE.
BUT I HURT MYSELF, STUPIDLY... AND ON THE DAY OF THE SELECTION, I WASN'T HEALED
Don't confide in me...
Or you might make my feelings for you grow...
Even more intense
I'M NOT SOMEBODY TO LOOK UP TO BECAUSE OF MY FAILURE...
I'M FRUSTRATED, SPITEFUL, AND JEALOUS.
SO AVOID TAKING ME AS AN EXAMPLE... FORGET ABOUT ME, WILL YOU?
FROM THAT DAY ON, YOU SEE, MY LIFE HAS BEEN RATHER DULL...

EEEEK!
I love him!
MISTER!
YEEEPEEH!
I HAVE TO TELL YOU SOME-THING!

SO?
BE MY TEACHER? FOR FREE, OF COURSE!
FOR FREE?
YOU CAN ALWAYS TRY...
BUT KNOW THAT IT'S NOT A FIGURE FOR BEGINNERS!
IF I SUCCEED IN THE TRIPLE AXEL, WOULD YOU AGREE TO...
Yes, it's certain! I feel it deep within my soul... I love him
GREAT!

This feeling sweeping over me... it's sublime!
BAM
DING
go!
Step

SLIDE
SLIDE
WHAT?
turn
turn
BUT WHAT ARE BOTH OF THEM PLAYING AT?
THEY ALMOST SYNCHRONIZE WITH EACH OTHER!
IT'S UNBELIEVABLE THAT A NEWCOMER IS ABLE TO FOLLOW MISS KASUGA!
lunz

Wow! Magnificent!
Step
OK LET'S GO!
SHE'S GOING TO EXECUTE A TRIPLE AXEL!

slide
WOOOOOOOW!
CON-GRATULA-TIONS!
SHE DID WELL
OH!
DID YOU SEE, MISTER?
YOO HOOO ♡
clap

WELL, TO THE OLYMPICS!
WHERE TO?
MISTER
YOU KNOW WHAT?
WE ARE GOING TO GO THERE TOGETHER! BOTH OF US!
CONGRATULA-TIONS...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE NO BEGINNER, BUT...

AH, I RECALL IT NOW!
DO YOU AGREE?
COME I'M CHOOSING YOU!
BESIDES, IT'S EXCITING FOR A GIRL TO REALIZE HER MAN'S DREAM.
YOU KNOW!
BUT IT'S ALREADY THE CASE
YOU'LL HAVE TO DEVOTE YOUR LIFE TO IT AND...
WHAT YOU ARE IMPLYING?
MY WORD! YOU ARE TOTALLY MAD! ARE YOU AWARE OF...

BUT WHY HAS SHE REAPPEARED NOW?
THAT GIRL IS ERY OGAWA!
I'M HAPPY TO HAVE FINALLY FOUND WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR
SHE WON THE NATIONAL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP TWO YEARS IN A ROW...
SHE HAD MONSTROUS TALENT!
I TOLD YOU TO FORGET ABOUT ME, DIDN'T I?
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A SHAME TO LET SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY SLIP
BUT ONE DAY, WITHOUT ANY EXPLANATION, SHE DISAPPEARED AND SHE NEVER WAS HEARD OF AGAIN

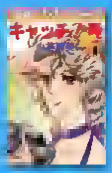
IT'S A BIT ORDINARY FOR A DECLARATION, BUT...
MISTER, I HAVE TO TELL YOU. . I LOVE YOU.
What I feel in that moment is the sole strength which is ever going to make me go forward.
I'M SURE THAT WE'LL BE ABLE TO REALIZE MIRACLES TOGETHER! DON'T YOU THINK SO?

Esthetique sure has strange recruitment methods...
Sleeping Potential Esthetique Staff...
We need more editors and Japanese translators!
WAKE UP!
WE ARE A WONDERFUL GROUP OF SCANLATORS.
YOU WILL BE WORKING ON GREAT MANGA PROJECTS!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA...
A'RIGHT, A'RIGHT! I'LL DO IT! I'LL APPLY!
YOU FORCED ME TO TICKLE YOU INTO APPLYING!
TICKLE TICKLE
I'm so excited! Let's get to work!
Yay! More releases!
LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO PUT OUT LOTS OF RELEASES!

These projects need

Japanese Translators

Chinese & Korean Translators



e-mail esthetiquestaff@gmail.com
with the title you're interested in
if you think you can help!

P.S. At this time, we do not need any more:
English proofreaders

Thank you for your interest!
Summer 2009

Chapter 02

Scanner Tampopo24
Translator Rayn
Proofreader Recalcitrant
Editor Key Sylvie
QC-er Sylvie

http://www.esthetique-realm.net

後編
銀になる
Graze money 2

The figure skating costumes...
are often magnificent!
DON'T TELL ME YOU ARE A FETISHIST?!
ARE YOU OGGLING AT THE CLOTHES? ARE YOU FANTASIZING ABOUT THEM?

Skating till the end of the night...

In the past the XXX High-land ice rink was open the whole night I don't know if that's still the case nowadays but...

It was an open-air skate rink, big and nicely lit. In short, a very pleasant location.

The only problem is that we didn't stop drinking in order to counter the cold. Therefore, I was quickly unable to keep on my legs...

IT HELPS ME PREPARE MYSELF PSYCHOLOGICALLY!

FIGURE SKATING

PREPARE YOURSELF? FOR WHAT?

WELL, FOR THE OLYMPICS ♡

How stupid of him

OK THEN GET READY TO LAY OUT ONE MILLION YEN...

ONE MI...

THAT'S RIGHT!

WITHOUT MONEY, THERE'S NO HELP FOR IT!

And the Olympic Games are not for

IT'S A DISCIPLINE IN WHICH BEAUTY PLAYS A BASIC ROLE...

HENCE WE WON'T SET LIMITS TO OURSELVES! SOME SKATERS DON'T HESITATE TO DYE THEIR COSTUME TO OBTAIN A UNIQUE COLOUR

I GET IT!

"FEMALE GOLFER, BORN IN 1976 WHO HAS WON A LOT OF MONEY THANKS TO HER NUMEROUS VICTORIES..
HM, IT'S A GOOD THING TO SET TARGETS FOR YOURSELF BUT
WE CAN START WITH THE TOKYO CHAMPIONSHIP...
Figure 3
.....
Like Yuri Fudo*
IT ONLY TAKES TO PASS A LOT OF CONTESTS AND TO WIN! AND THEN, FORK OUT THE CASH.
TELL ME WHERE YOU GET SUCH SELF-CONFIDENCE?
ALL RIGHT, IT'S IN THE BAG.
Well!
BUT WHY ME?
What about open me a common account?
DON'T WORRY WE'LL SHARE THE PRIZE MONEY!
BECAUSE BETWEEN YOU AND ME, THERE'S SOMETHING... I'M THE ONLY PERSON WHO TRULY UNDERSTANDS YOU! ADMIT IT!

...
HELLO!
HELLO, SIR!
There, she's my sole rival...
Graceful and feminine... the frail figure and the snow white skin
HE SAID THAT BEAUTY PLAYED A BASIC ROLE...
RUSTLE

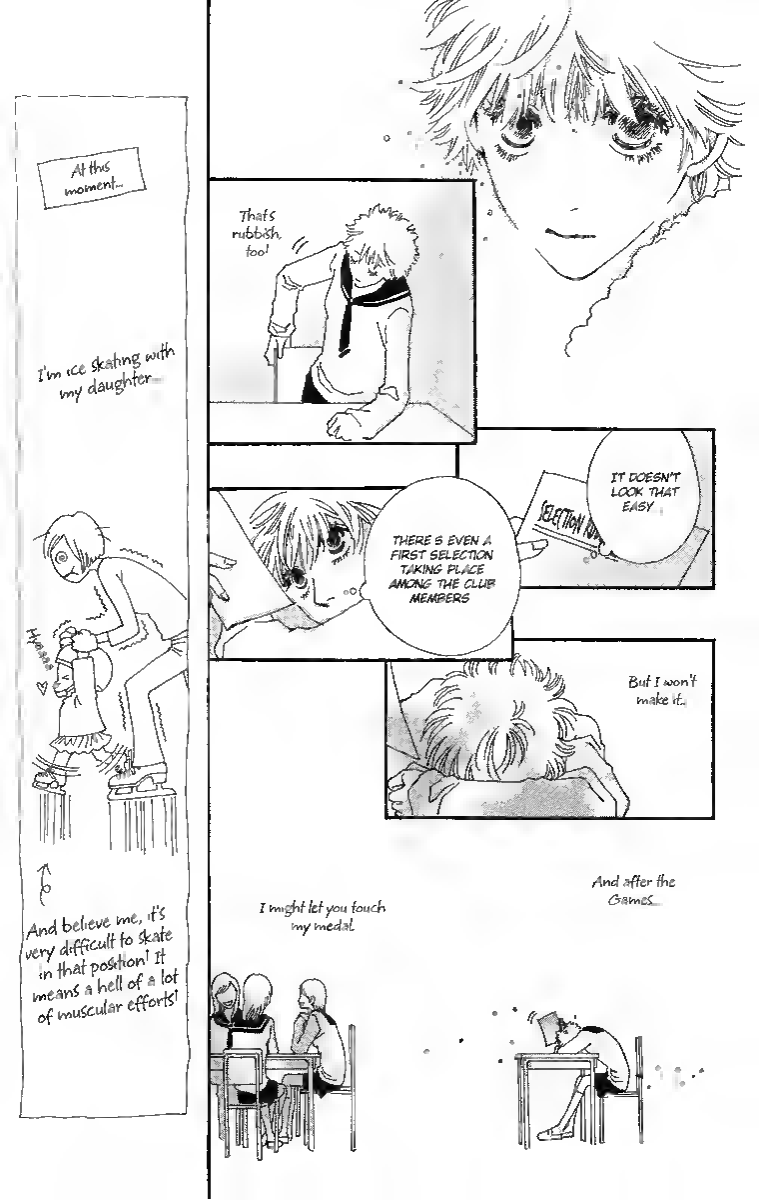
DON'T CRASH WITH YOUR EDGES AS IF DIGGING A HOLE IN THE ICE!
SCREECH
SCREECH SCREECH
MORE SUPPLE!
RELAX, BUT DON'T SLACKEN YOUR CONCENTRATION!
YOU ARE NOT HERE TO DEMOLISH THE RINK AFTER ALL!
WELL... SHE WAS MAYBE GIFTED AS A CHILD BUT TODAY
I WOULD GO SO FAR AS TO SAY IT'S DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE...
SO THAT YOUNG GIRL IS ERY OGAWA! IT'S SURPRISING!
OH MRS. TAKAI
YOU STICK TO HER LIKE A LEECH!

In addition, I'm giving her lessons free of charge!
IT'S TRUE THAT SHE WAS ABLE TO PERFORM THE TRIPLE AXEL, BUT...
I see
I'M AFRAID SHE STOPPED FOR TOO LONG... SHE HAS A LOT OF CATCH-UP TO DO
YOU THINK SO?
Ooh Ooh!
NEVERTHELESS, SHE HAS LOTS OF STRENGTH IN THE LEGS AND A HELL OF A TEMPER! TWO RARE QUALITIES...
IT'S ENCOURAGING, ISN'T IT?
ARE YOU KIDDING? TO TRAIN HER IS A REAL AGONY!
YOU LOOK, HOWEVER, DELIGHTED...
PARDON ME?!
TWO YOUNG GIRLS SO DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER...
ONE INCARNATES ENERGY, THE OTHER, ELEGANCE
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HOW THEY ARE GOING TO EVOLVE.

HI!
SEE YOU TOMORROW!
HEY YOU BEAT IT!
DON'T YOU SEE YOU ARE A WASTE OF POWER?
OOPS, SORRY! I HAVE LONG LEGS
IT'S RATHER YOUR LARGE BOTTOM THAT IS IN THE WAY!
AND ALSO YOUR BEHAVIOUR!
YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN GOOD WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE BUT WE DON'T GIVE A DAMN! IT DOESN'T GIVE YOU THE RIGHT TO TURN UP LIKE THAT AND TO TAKE LESSONS WITH MR. KOBAYASHI!
FRANKLY WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
LEAVE HER ALONE!

AFTER ALL, EVERYONE IS FREE TO CHOOSE WHOMEVER SHE PLEASES AS A COACH, RIGHT?
ARE WE IN "THE NEW STAR"?!
What an entrance!
WHILE SHE'S NOT EVEN SURE OF BEING ABLE TO APPLY FOR IT!
BUT SHE'S SHOUTING FROM THE ROOFTOP THAT SHE'LL WIN THE TOKYO CHAMPIONSHIP!
Amusing.....
BECAUSE THIS COMPETITION HOLDS MY INTEREST TOO
ALL RIGHT! MAY THE BEST MAN WIN!
WAAAH!!

WHAT IF I LET MY HAIR GROW OUT?
That story starts to get messed up
Therefore I won't get wound up about such a small championship!
WOULD MAKE ME APPEAR MORE FEMININE
LONG HAIR...
Anyway my goals are the Olympics
HELLO!
Hmph


At this moment...
I'm ice skating with my daughter...
Hyaaa
And believe me, it's very difficult to skate in that position! It means a hell of a lot of muscular efforts!
That's rubbish, too!
THERE'S EVEN A FIRST SELECTION TAKING PLACE AMONG THE CLUB MEMBERS
SELECTION
IT DOESN'T LOOK THAT EASY
But I won't make it...
I might let you touch my medal
And after the Games...

From time to time, when he's alone, he's massaging his legs...
You and I, we can succeed Right Mister?
THAT ACCIDENT WAS TERRIBLE FOR MR KORAYASHI
WHAT TRAUMA! HE TRULY WAS.
AT THE SUMMIT OF HIS ART WHEN IT HAPPENED AND SO YOUNG TOO
HE BECAME A COACH AT ONLY TWENTY-TWO! THAT EXPLAINS WHY THIS TRAGEDY STILL HAUNTS HIM!

.....
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
YOU KNOW...
I WOULD HAVE SO MUCH LIKED TO BE BY YOUR SIDE DURING THOSE DIFFICULT TIMES.
Ery... M'ster...
WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT?
IT'S EXTREMELY ROMANTIC ♡
A real knock-out!
POUSE
ERR... WELL I'M REHEARSING!

BY THE WAY, WHAT ABOUT STARTING THE LESSON? HM.
SAY, IT HAS BEEN A WHILE YOU HAVEN'T SKATED, AM I WRONG?
WHY DID YOU STOP?
BECAUSE I HADN'T MET YOU THEN...

Nooooo! I don't wannaaaaaaa!
Don't be capricious! Very little time remains before the competition!
I don't want to!
Waaaa waaaaa!
Ah, that's enough! What's happening to you today? Everything was going all right yesterday! Come on and hurry up!
Madam! Ery wet her underwear!
BUT SINCE I WAS LITTLE...
WHY?
WELL... AT THE TIME I DIDN'T LIKE SKATING THAT MUCH.
THE TRAINING WAS HARSH AND THE TEACHERS WERE TERRORIZING ME...
Hey, yes!
Waaaa
I THOUGHT THAT THIS SITUATION WAS NORMAL.
Waaaa!
SO I CLUNG TO IT.
AND IT WORKED
BUT FEAR AND PAIN WERE STILL PRESENT...

I HAD THE IMPRESSION OF BEING CAGED...
IN A CAR LAUNCHED AT TOP SPEED...
AND DEVOID OF A WHEEL...
AND I WAS...
SO AWE-STRUCK...
THAT I ENDED UP GIVING UP EVERYTHING...
AND YOU... HOW DID YOU OVERCOME THIS ACCIDENT?
.....
WELL... YOU KNOW THE POEM "PIPPA'S SONG"?

SONG?
OK DROP IT!
WHAT? WHAT?
WOOF WOOF
NO IT'S NOTHING GO TRAIN!
Lie down!
COME ON!
Since our path has crossed
for the first time I feel strong..
WE HAVE LOST ENOUGH TIME!
.....
YOU WANT TO GO TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES, YES OR NO?
And be able to fulfill my dream!
OF COURSE I WANT TO, YOU KNOW THAT!
.....

I'm cold...
YEAH.
BETTER?
STILL TOO STIFF!
WHAT?! BUT I'M SUPPLE!
GLIIIDE
SEE YOU ARE LIFTING YOUR LEG REALLY HIGH BUT...
GO AHEAD MAKE A SPIRAL
IT'S NOT A MATTER OF SUPPLENESS

JUMP
PIROUETTE
Too easy!
THE ICE SKATES ARE WEIGHTING EACH TWO KILOS. SO, IN ORDER TO CORRECTLY LIFT YOUR LEG, YOU NEED ROCK-HARD DORSAL MUSCLES
IT'S MORE A PROBLEM OF THE MUSCLE STRUCTURE THAN SUPPLENESS...
IT IS NOT PLACED AT THE RIGHT ANGLE... INSTEAD OF BEING BEHIND YOUR BACK, YOUR LEG IS SLIGHTLY ON THE SIDE.
Can you listen to me without fidgeting?!
Always in control of the edges.
Change of direction, no link.
OR EVEN FOR THE STEPS...
IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT FOR THE JUMPS AND THE PIROUETTES
A SKATE BLADE IS VERY THIN THEREFORE SENSIBLE...
YOU CAN ALSO LIFT YOUR TOES FOR EXAMPLE
THEN MAINTAIN IT SPREAD
ONE TOE MAY ALREADY MODIFY ITS DIRECTION... YOU CAN MOVE THE LITTLE TOE...

THOSE SUBTLETIES YOU HAVE NO CONTR...
OK. I'M GOING TO LEARN THESE THINGS!
IT'S MERELY A TRIFLE!
Actually they are nothing to me!
IT'S IN YOUR LACK OF FINESSE...
WHEN FACED WITH THESE SMALL MATTERS THAT YOUR TEMPER COMES OUT!
IN A NUTSHELL, TO PUT IT NICELY YOU ARE A FEATHERBRAIN...
Tpdldla
HIS THOUGHTS REMAINED FROZEN
AND THERE'S NOTHING MORE DIFFICULT THAN A CHANGE OF CHARACTER!
EVEN IF I POINT IT OUT TO HER, SHE'LL HAVE A HARD TIME EVOLVING...
WHOOOSH

NEVERTHELESS, SHE'S NOT AFRAID TO SHOW HERSELF THE WAY SHE IS!
WHOOSH
KASUGA, ON THE CONTRARY, TENDS TO MASK HER FAULTS IN A SUBTLE WAY.
HE SEES NOTHING OF THE DUEL GOING ON IN FRONT OF HIS EYES

LET'S SEE HOW TO PROCEED? I COULD GIVE THEM...
THE SAME PROGRAM?!
BUT FOR WHAT REASON?! WE ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER!
SHE'S RIGHT! WHAT'S THE POINT IN DOING SO?
IT'S A MONEY QUESTION!
YOU ARE ALREADY FOLLOWING THE SAME TRAINING BECAUSE YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A SPECIAL RATE!
AND YOU ARE ASKED NOT TO COMPLAIN!
SO YOU'LL FOLLOW THE SAME PROGRAM FOR THE SELECTION TAKING PLACE WITHIN THE CLUB!
INSTEAD OF MONEY, I GAIN TIME!

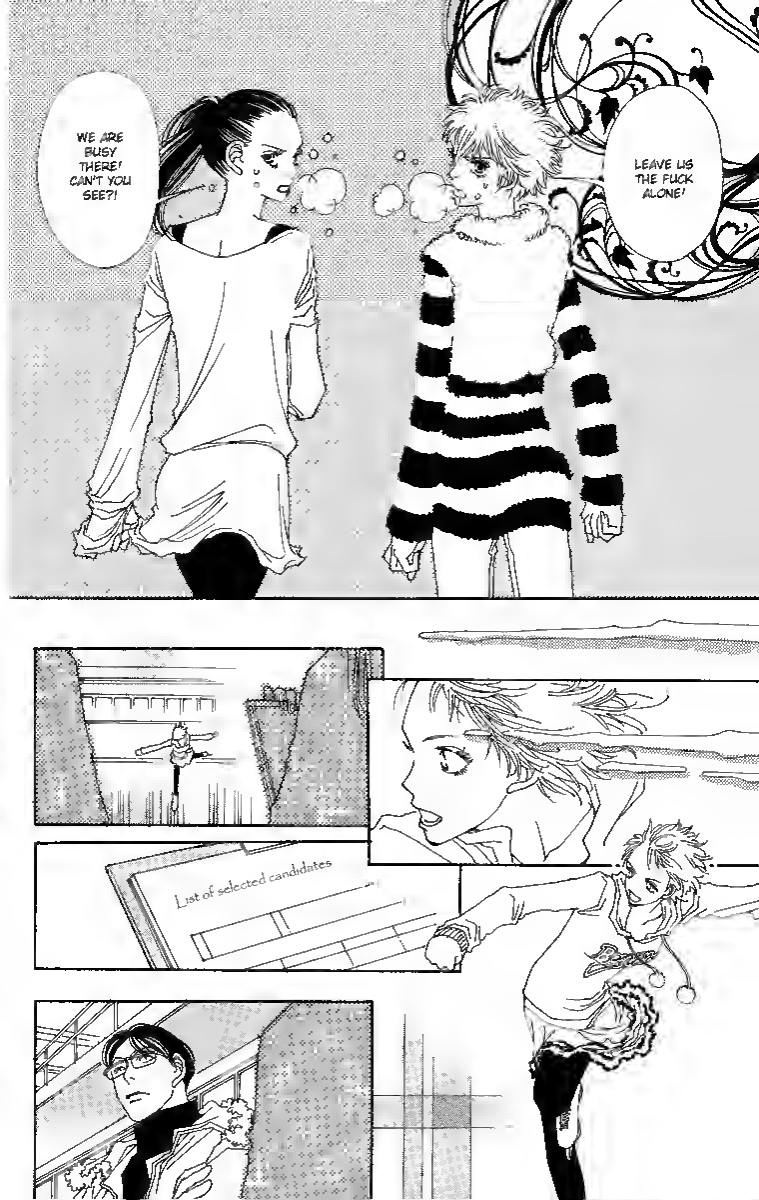
OGAWA, LIFT YOUR LEG HIGHER!
KASUGA! YOU ARE LAGGING BEHIND!
THINK OF YOUR HANDS! TIGHTEN YOUR FINGERS!
YOU ARE TOTALLY NOT IN SYNC! MY GOD, HOW AWFUL!

TH
UD
AM I DREAMING OR ARE WE TRAINING TWICE AS MUCH MORE AS BEFORE?!
AH WELL DONE! BECAUSE OF YOUR LATENESS WE EXCEEDED THE ALLOTTED TIME!
WHAT?! RUBBISH! WE JUTTED OUT BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T MANAGE YOUR JUMPS!
OH REALLY? AND WHO SPEND HALF OF HER TIME LEARNING THE RIGHT STEPS?
YOU SHOULD START STOPPING WEARING PINK! YOU ARE TOO OLD FOR THAT KIND OF COLOR!
FRANKLY SPEAKING, INSTEAD OF PLAYING AT BEING A PRINCESS, YOU SHOULD RATHER GIVE IT EVERYTHING YOU HAVE!
IT'S OBVIOUS YOU HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ICE-SKATING! THIS DISCIPLINE ALSO MEANS TO SHOW YOURSELF TO BEST ADVANTAGE!
YOU ARE JEALOUS BECAUSE YOU LOOK LIKE A GUY!

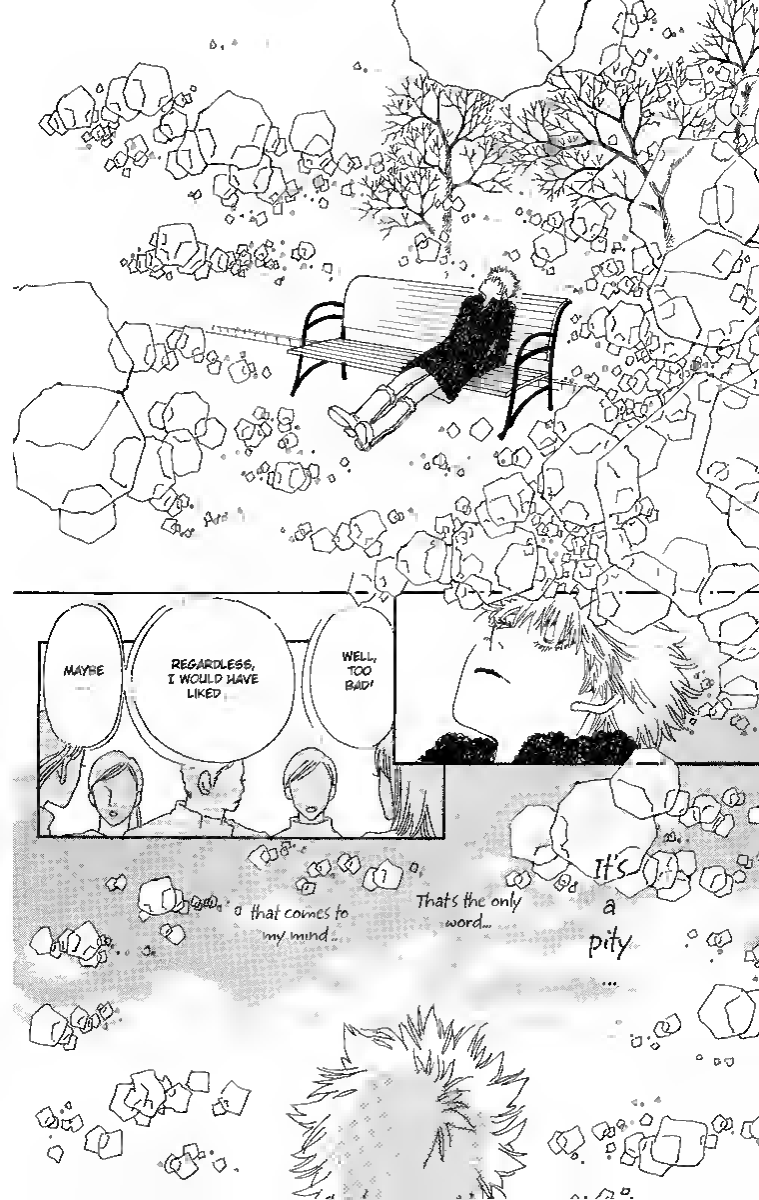
SHAAAA
SHAA
WHICH OF US IS THE BEST?
TODAY, YOU ARE GOING TO SEE...
GLiiiDE

THIS TURN, I'M TAKING IT BETTER THAN HER..
MY STEPS ARE LIGHTER.
ONE TWO AND
ERY, YOU ARE LATE!
NO, IT'S YOU WHO ARE NOT IN RHYTHM.
ARGH, YOU ARE DISTURBING ME! I CAN'T KEEP THE TEMPO!
BUT YOU AREN'T SUPPOSED TO COUNT ON ME, FOOL!

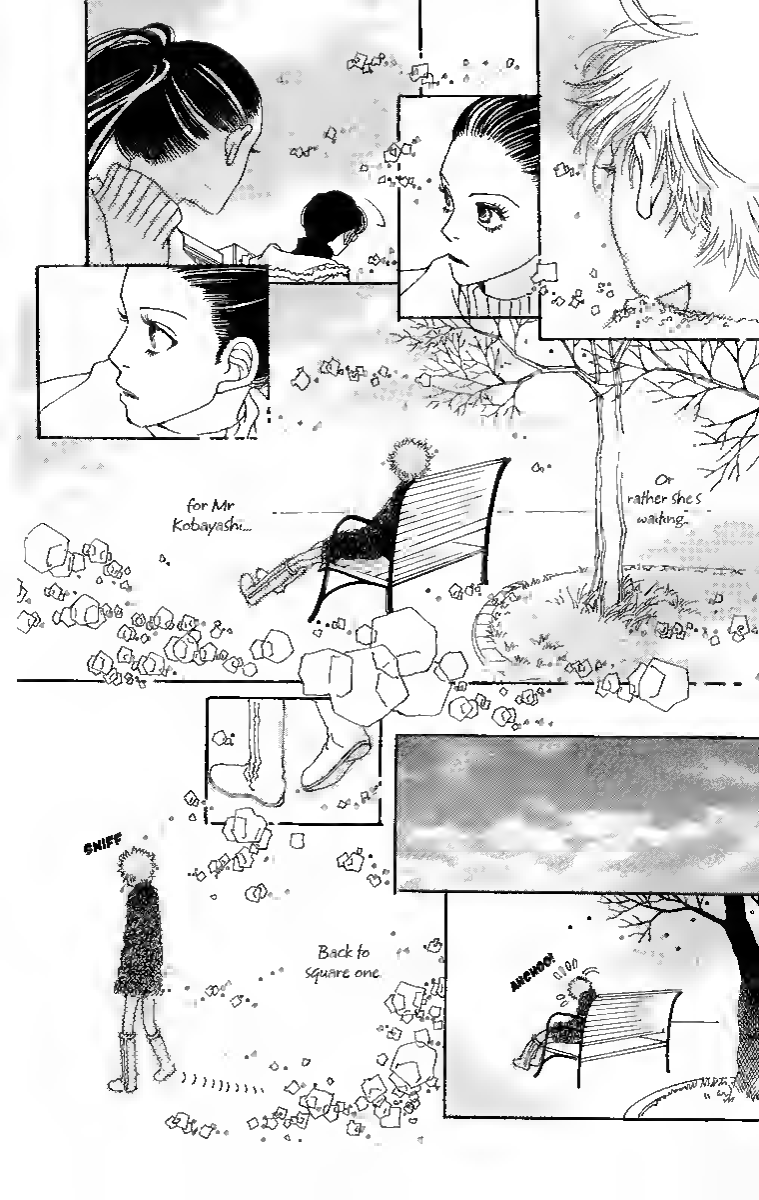
PRECISELY, IT SUITS YOU VERY WELL, SINCE YOU'RE SO STUPID!
POOR GOOFY?! THAT SUCKS! WHERE DID YOU GET THAT INSULT FROM?!
YOU'RE THE FOOL. POOR GOOFY!
SCREEEEECH
SO AWESOME! THEY ARE SKATING WHILE ARGUING!
Tick
Tick
Tick
Tick
Tick
WHAT A SIGHT!
HAA!
HAAA!
HAA!
HAA!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
IMPORTANT TO YOU...
THIS CHAMPIONSHIP IS REALLY

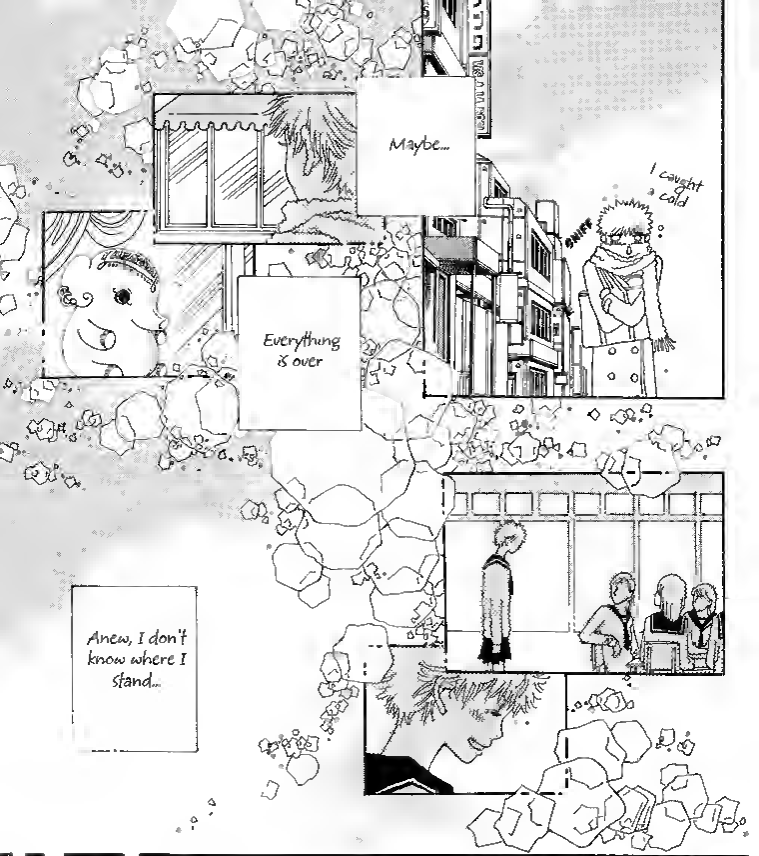

WE ARE BUSY THERE! CAN'T YOU SEE?!
LEAVE US THE FUCK ALONE!
List of selected candidates

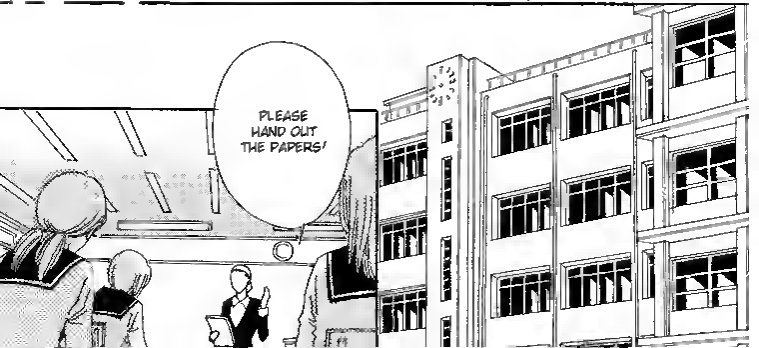
WELL. HERE ARE THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO WERE ACCEPTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOKYO CHAMPIONSHIP
MISS YAMA-GUCHI
YES.
MISS EZAWA
YES
MISS NAKA-TANI
MISS KASUGA
YES
THAT WILL BE ALL THANK YOU


MAYBE
REGARDLESS, I WOULD HAVE LIKED
WELL, TOO BAD!
It's a pity ...
That's the only word...
that comes to my mind.

Pity...
Pity!
Pity!
Pity!
Pity!
AH!
There she comes!
SIR...
I'M SURE SHE CHOSE TO SIT OVER THERE. IN SUCH AN OBVIOUS PLACE, SO WE GO UP TO HER AND COMFORT HER.
What a child!
Just in front of the ice rink!
SSSh


for Mr Kobayashi...
Or rather she's watching...
SNIFF
Back to square one.
ANCHOR!


Maybe...
I caught a cold
SNIFF
Everything is over
Anew, I don't know where I stand...

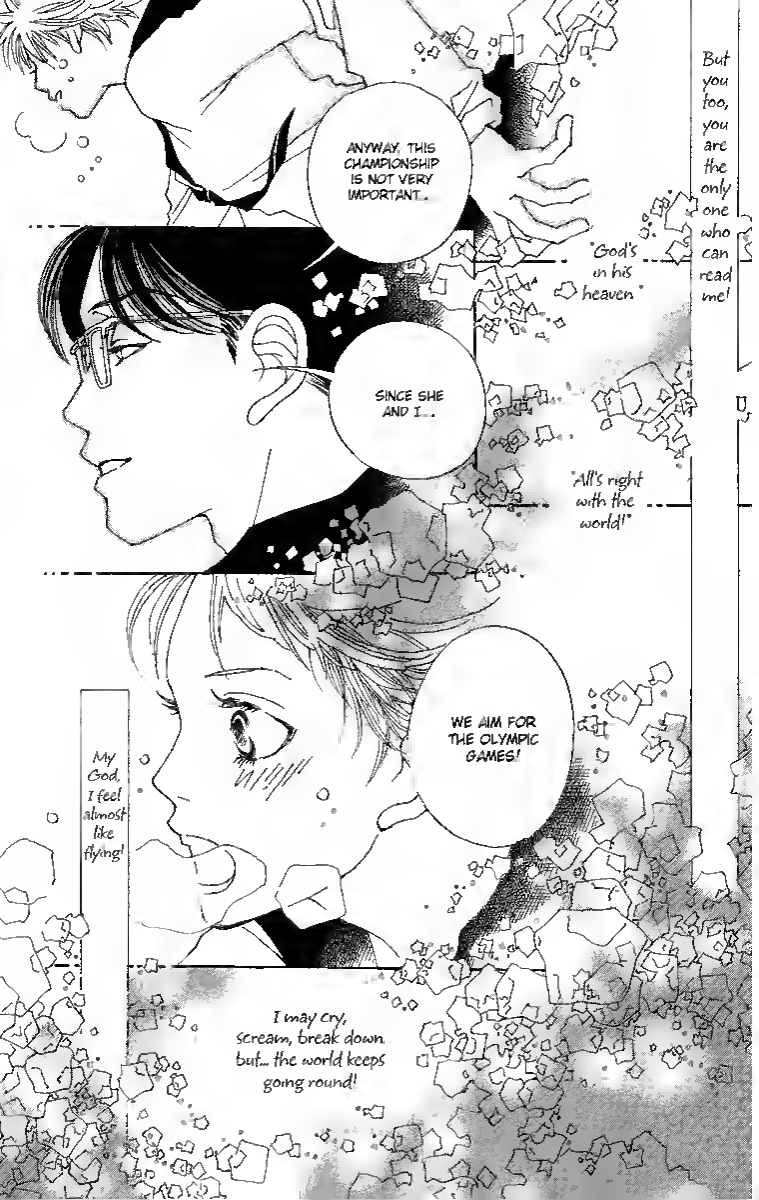

PLEASE HAND OUT THE PAPERS!

TN: *Haru no ashita (literal translation "In the Morning of Spring" original English title "Pippa's Song") is the Japanese translation of an extract from a piece of Robert Browning Pippa passes (1841). Rin Uada (1874-1916) Japanese symbolist poet made this translation published in 1905 alongside other poems from western authors in the anthology Kaichō-on (Murmurs from the Sea)

A TRANSLATION FROM THE WORK OF ROBERT BROWNING*
THIS POEM IS PART OF THE ANTHOLOGY "MURMURS FROM THE SEA" IT'S ENTITLED "IN THE MORNING OF SPRING"
You know...
"How did you overcome your accident?"
"The poem In The Spring of Morning?"
"God's in His heaven..."

IF I HAD KNOWN THAT ONE DAY THE POETRY LESSON WOULD OPEN MY EYES!
SORRY, I HAVE TO GO!
MISS OGAWA? BUT
STOMP
WHY DIDN'T YOU CHOOSE HER? YOU DID IT ON PURPOSE, DIDN'T YOU?
SHE POSSESSES THE REQUIRED LEVEL OF COMPETENCE FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP
WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M A SADIST TO THE CORE
THAT'S WHAT I SEE FOR MYSELF!
She didn't contradict me!

EXACTLY! WE'LL SEE HER IF SHE GETS BACK ON HER FEET!
IF SHE'S TOO DISAPPOINTED, SHE'S GOING TO GIVE UP ICE SKATING...
BUT IT'S RISKY TO HINDER HER PARTICIPATING IN THIS COMPETITION, DON'T YOU THINK?
"The year's at the spring"
FIGURE SKATING IS A VERY EXPRESSIVE ART...
IN ORDER TO EVOLVE, EVERY FIBRE OF HER BEING...
IS QUIVERING WITH THE IMPERIOUS DESIRE TO SKATE!
Mister, I understand you like no one else does...
'The year's at the Spring,
And day's at the morn,
Morning's at seven,
The hill-side's dew-pearl,
The lark's on the wing,
The snail's on the thorn,
THE FIRE WITHIN HER?
SHE NEEDS TO FEEL THIS FIRE BURN WITHIN HER
AND THEN SHE'LL BE ABLE TO GO FORWARD


But you too, you are the only one who can read me!
ANYWAY, THIS CHAMPIONSHIP IS NOT VERY IMPORTANT...
"God's in his heaven"
SINCE SHE AND I...
"All's right with the world!"
WE AIM FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES!
My God, I feel almost like flying!
I may cry, scream, break down but... the world keeps going round!

こと
"The snail's on the thorn;"
"All's right with the world!"

It's a call ...
This poem you and I share ...
It was a sign, wasn't it?
to rejoin you !

YOU ARE LATE!
AT LAST, THERE YOU ARE!
EXCUSE ME TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING!
You and I, we'll reach new heights...
till we graze the sky!

Chapter 03

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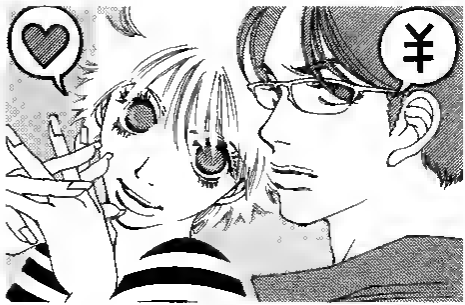
前編

空にはる

Graze The Sky 1



From the moment I fell in love..
my life has taken on new meaning
RUSTLE
PUTTING ON GLOVES
I'm going to fulfill my dream..
SHE CUT HER FRINGE.
SLIDE
I made a promise to myself

He and I, we have the same goal The Olympic Games!
My coach is an ex-candidate for the Games..
GET TO WORK INSTEAD!
I'M GETTING INTO SHAPE!
And I, an ex child prodigy
AND SOON-TO-BE A PRIZE SNATCHER!
We are both potential ex-stars who overcame terrible ordeals..
WELL, IT'S NOT PERFECT!
But this time we'll succeed!
IT'S ABOUT TIME TO PUT SOME EFFORT IN FINDING A BETTER PAYING JOB!
IN YOUR DREAMS!
He only thinks about that!

Let's go onto the rink!
ERY...
FROM TODAY ON, LEAVE YOUR SKATES IN THE LOCKER ROOM FOR A MONTH
FROM NOW ON, SOLELY CONCENTRATE ON LIMBERING UP

But errr! I want my skates!
Stop playing the fool! And do as I tell you!
IT'S AN ORDER!
NO, "LIMBERING UP."
A VERY SMOOTH CLOTH.
FOR
A conditioning
THAT'S ENOUGH!
ALL RIGHT!
SMOOTH AND LIMP LIKE A NAN"
"particularly supple Indian bread
You're already an old hag!
You are talking like an expert! That's why...
Two hundred and fifty million years before going back to the ice!
Considering your suppleness, prepare yourself to wait a bit out...

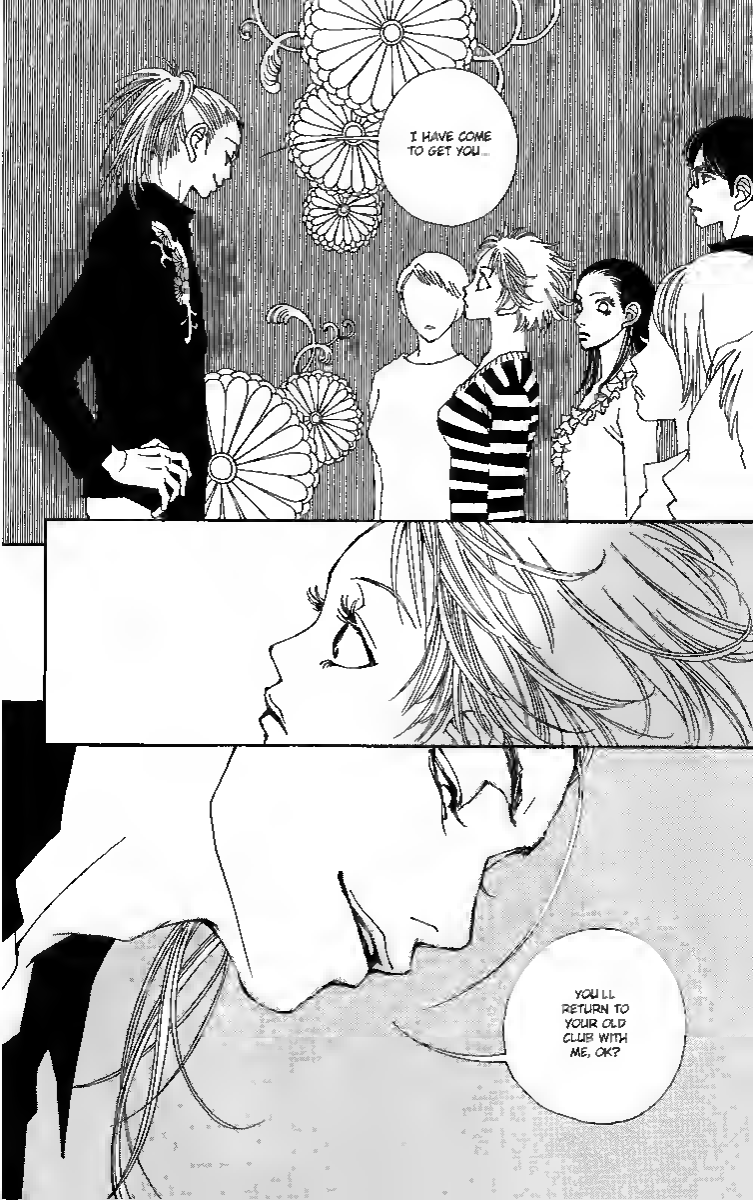
IDIOT!!
IMMEDIATELY LOWER YOUR SHOE!
I am only one year older than you!
SAY THAT AGAIN!
fatal skate grip
She's my enemy I don't like her...
THUMP
But her triple axel is the best of all Japan
That's where I actually stand...
For now I'm trying to reach her level
BUT I'M STILL TOO STIFF!
OUCH!
WAAAAH!
OOOOH!

SLIDE
GRAAAAAH
WAAAH
WAAAH
SATAKE TSUJIDO! HE TURNED UP WITHOUT WARNING! LOOK, HOW SUPER IMPRESSIVE!
WHO'S THIS?
SLIDE

OH, MY!
HERE!
IT'S SATAKE TSUJIDO!
ONE OF JAPAN'S THREE BEST ICE SKATERS
AND THE CANDIDATE EVERYBODY IS COUNTING ON FOR THE NEXT OLYMPIC GAMES
KASUGA, ERY, WATCH HIM CLOSELY...
HIS STEPS, HIS JUMPS...
HIS FOOTING CHANGES...
HE'S WITHOUT ANY DOUBT, THE BEST SKATER YOU HAVE EVER SEEN...
SLIDE
SCRATCH

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
.....
SILENCE

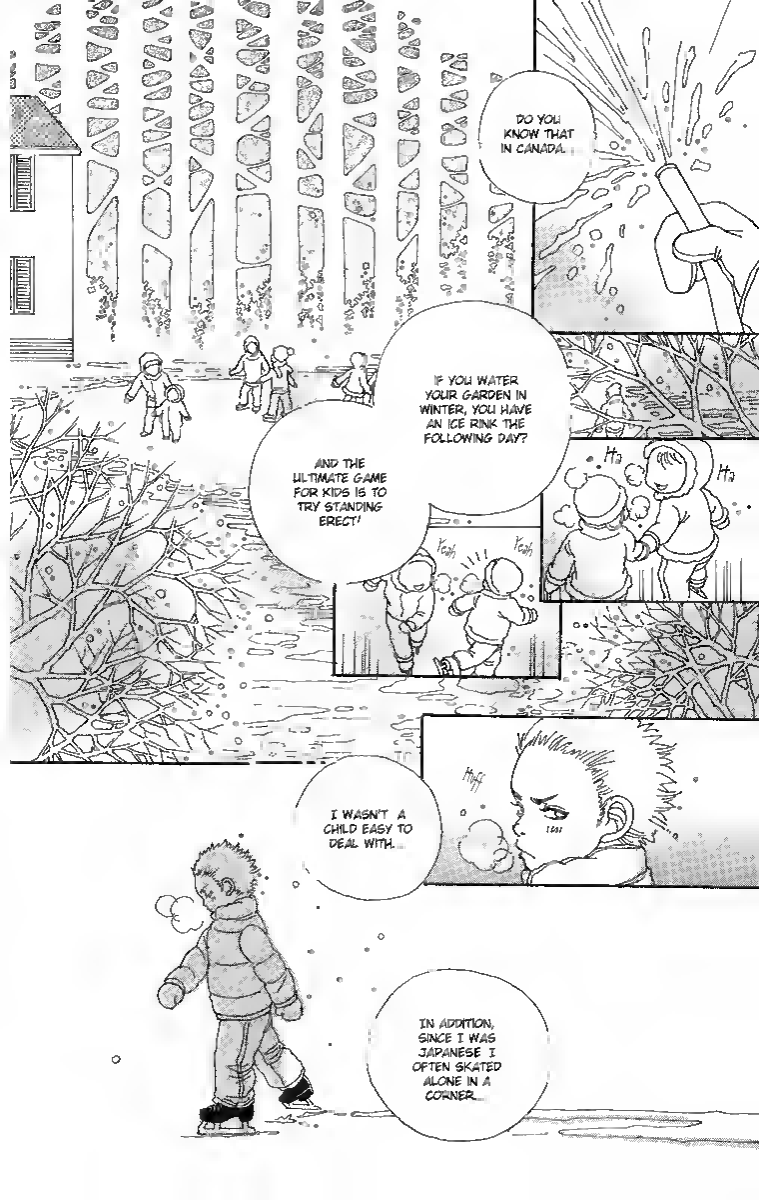
BALLO
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
MAY I SHAKE YOUR HAND?
IT WAS SUPER!! I'M SO TOUCHED!
I SAW YOU AT THE GALA THE OTHER DAY, AND...
ERY!
HEY!


I HAVE COME TO GET YOU...
YOU'LL RETURN TO YOUR OLD CLUB WITH ME, OK?

NO!
COME ON, LET'S GO. THIS PLACE IS TOO SMALL FOR YOU! YOU ARE GOING TO END UP RUSTING!
HUMPF HUMPF
ERY HAS ONLY ONE COACH AND THAT'S ME!

MISTER
SHE ISN'T GOING ANYWHERE WITHOUT ME!
YOUR PRICE?
TEN MILLION!
YOU MISSED!
BOOOOOM!
IT WAS SO CLOSE!

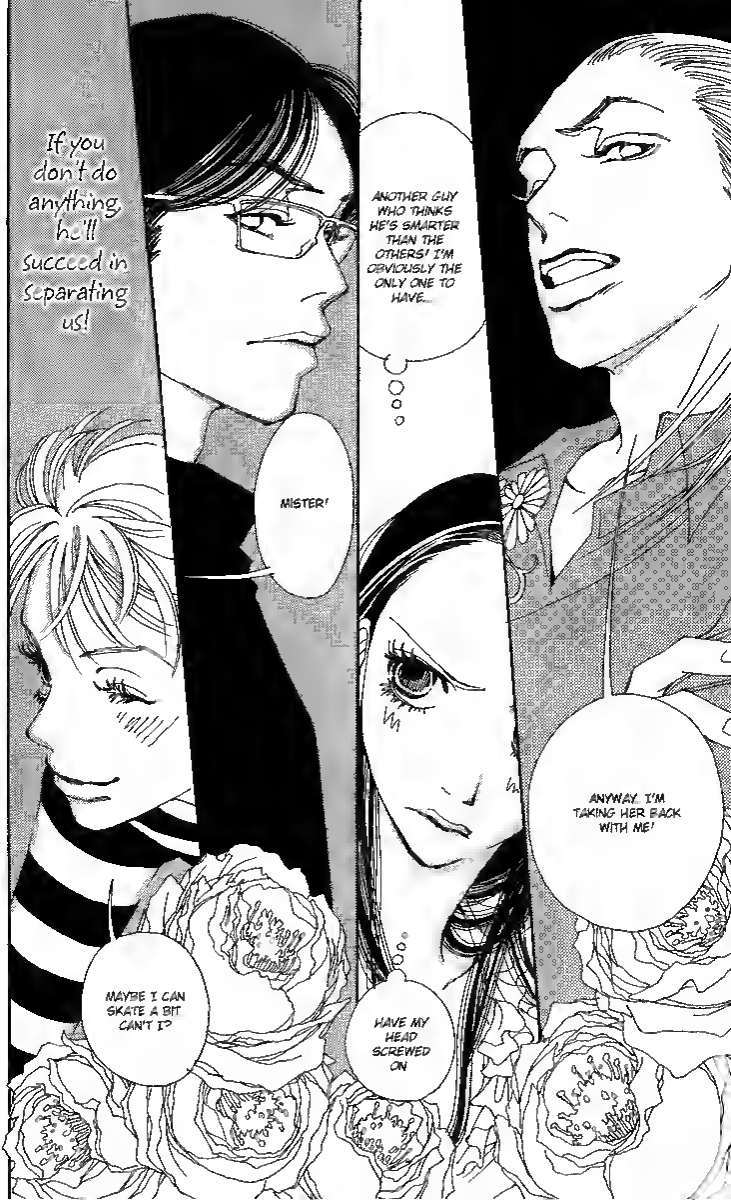
AND YOU, WHAT IS YOUR REASON FOR FETCHING HER?
WHY IS SHE STAYING HERE?
ME?
WELL, BECAUSE SHE'S MY FIANCEE!
WE BOTH LIVED IN CANADA WHEN WE WERE LITTLE... BECAUSE OF OUR PARENTS' JOBS.
What?


DO YOU KNOW THAT IN CANADA...
IF YOU WATER YOUR GARDEN IN WINTER, YOU HAVE AN ICE RINK THE FOLLOWING DAY?
AND THE ULTIMATE GAME FOR KIDS IS TO TRY STANDING ERECT!
Yeah
Yeah
Ha
Ha
I WASN'T A CHILD EASY TO DEAL WITH...
IN ADDITION, SINCE I WAS JAPANESE I OFTEN SKATED ALONE IN A CORNER...

YOU MUST BE SATAKE AREN'T YOU?
SHE'S NAMED ERY. SHE'S TWO YEARS OLD... WE HAVE JUST MOVED IN NEXT DOOR
OH! SORRY!
Grrb
Grrb
SMILE
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
Is that an al'en or what?
Ehh?
BANG
EXCUSE-ME!
OH, ERR. I...
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T EVER LET GO OF YOUR HAND!

I'M TAKING HOLD OF YOU, I PROMISE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!
WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL
DESPITE FALLING DOWN OVER AND OVER AGAIN...
BANG
EIKY'S GLOVE
WHOOSH
SHE NEVER CRIED, NEVER GAVE UP... SHE WAS HANGING IN. IT WAS INCREDIBLE!
Sniffle
WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL WHIRL
DURING THAT TIME I...
I WATCHED OVER HER

WHEN WE CAME BACK TO JAPAN, WE ENTERED THE FAMOUS ICE SKATING CLUB AKATSUKI AND WE WERE THE BEST.
WE CONTINUED SKATING TOGETHER.
I DON'T WANT HER TO LEAVE ME...
IT WAS RATHER BECAUSE OUR PARENTS HAD A BLAST WHEN WE WERE KIDS...
ERR... TO BE HONEST
BRING A LAWSUIT AGAINST HER FOR BREACH OF BETROTHAL
What a brilliant idea!
It's not legal!
IS THAT YOUR MEANING OF BEING ENGAGED?!
What am I hearing?
LEAVE ME ALONE!
OH, STOP IT!
Yai
Iie


If you don't do anything, he'll succeed in separating us!
MISTER!
ANOTHER GUY WHO THINKS HE'S SMARTER THAN THE OTHERS! I'M OBVIOUSLY THE ONLY ONE TO HAVE...
ANYWAY, I'M TAKING HER BACK WITH ME!
MAYBE I CAN SKATE A BIT CAN'T I?
HAVE MY HEAD SCREWED ON

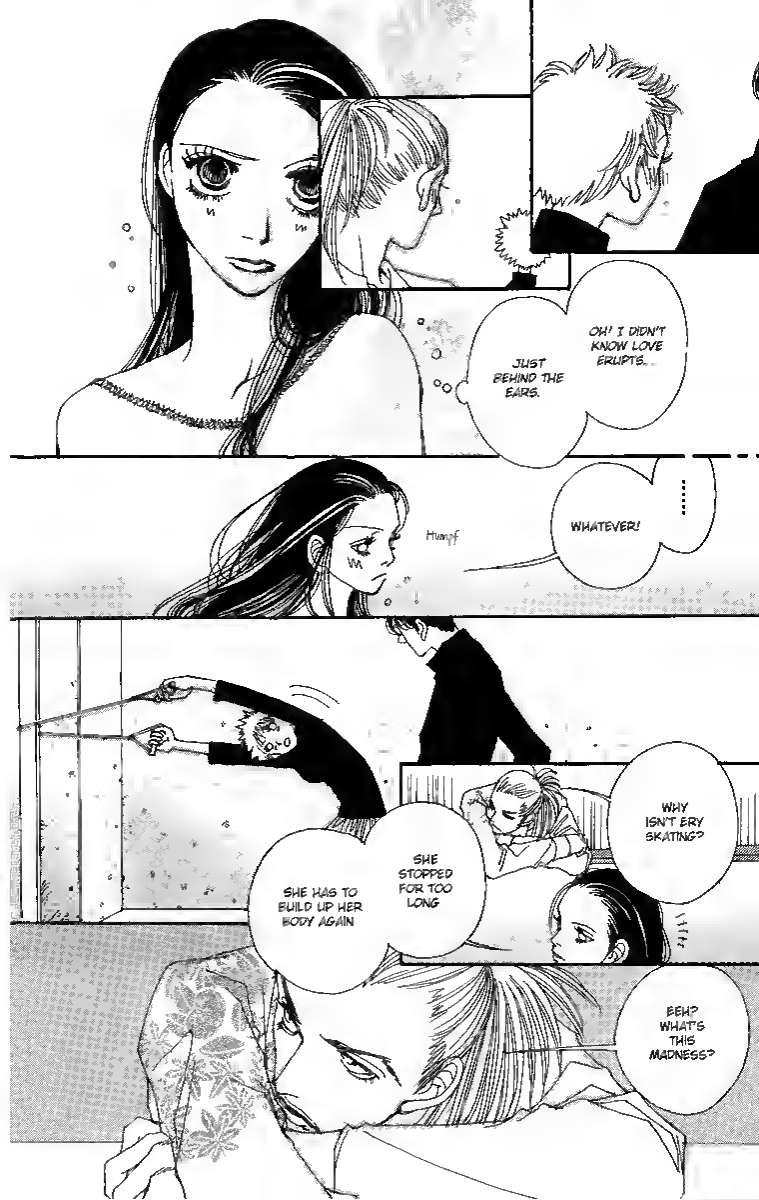
Canada
I lived over there when I was little. You may recognize some of my experiences in that country in this manga
I notably recall that every father made a little ice rink for each of their children
Every garden was therefore riddled with mini ice rinks.
is to train you, that's all
My duty
Yes, Mister
to make sure of a calm retirement
But every good blood horse breeder has the right to sell his horses at the best price
MISSED AGAIN
I'm not for sale! I'm not your Geisha!

HI, GIRLS!
KYAAAH!♡
MISTER TSUJIDO, WE LOVE YOU! YOU ARE A GOD! ♡
I PREPARED A LUNCH BASKET FOR YOU!
CAN I TAKE A PHOTO OF YOU?
IF YOU WANT!
Love
Love
Love
God
God
God
A God?!
HE COMES EVERY DAY AND NOW HE HAS HIS OWN GROUPIE...
WE HAVE TO ADMIT THAT BOYS ARE RARE IN THIS ENVIRONMENT
Glad to be's father's son
ERY, WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE THE CLUB?
IT MUST BE NICE TO BE WITH HIM.
HELL, NO!
WHY?

Long Live Me
BECAUSE LIKE ALL GUYS FIGURE SKATING HE'S HYPER SELF-CENTERED!
I NOTIFY YOU THAT MR KORAYASHI IS ALSO AN ICE SKATER.
YES, BUT HE'S SPECIAL! HE STOPPED!
Ring Ring
Love is blind
HMM... NEVER-THELESS...
I DON'T SEE ANY DIFFERENCES! HE'S TERRIBLY SELFISH!
Long Live Me

IN FACT, IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF SATAKE...
THAT I LEFT MY OLD CLUB.
ON THE CONTRARY, HE HELPED ME OUT A LOT
THAT'S THE REASON YOU ARE GOING BACK WITH ME!
RUB
RUB
THAT'S NOT THE QUESTION...

HMM?
TELL ME ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP COMING EVERY DAY?
.....
AS LONG AS MY MOTIVATION LIES HERE ... YES!
AND MINE IS OVER THERE!
Hey, may I remind you that you are supposed to slog!
HER MASTER'S DOGGY.
SHE REALLY APPEARS TO BE...
BARK!
YOU STILL NEED TO LIMBER UP


OH! I DIDN'T KNOW LOVE ERUPTS... JUST BEHIND THE EARS.
Humpf
WHATEVER!
.....
WHY ISN'T ERY SKATING?
SHE STOPPED FOR TOO LONG
SHE HAS TO BUILD UP HER BODY AGAIN
BEH? WHAT'S THIS MADNESS?

In Canada
There was an ice rink very close to my place and every day after school, my parents gave me a dollar to go there
It cost seventy-five cents for two hours
Super sweet!
I always made a break to drink hot chocolate
I remember one time, instead of chocolate, I bought a sweet which cost ten cents and looked like a rubber string.
It was so repulsive, I couldn't eat it!
MISTER, I WANT TO SKATE!
NO, IT'S TOO EARLY
BUT I'M GOING TO LOSE MY TECHNIQUE!
AND BESIDES, I FEEL EMPTY IF I'M NOT ON THE RINK...
.....
IT'S TOO BAD...

One thing has been bothering me for a long time...
SAY, COACH WOULD YOU AGREE TO A LITTLE BET WITH ME?
AND EIKY... AT STAKE!

WHAT A PIGHEAD! YOU ARE REALLY STARTING TO GET ON MY NERVES!
$
Bill
Eny's price 10 000,000 yen
WHY GAMBLING? I HAVE ANOTHER SUGGESTION. HERE WE GO!
PHEW, I'M EXHAUSTED
WITH ALL THOSE EXERCISES I'M ACHING ALL OVER! MY BODY WILL DOUBTLESSLY CHANGE SOON.
MAYBE I'M GOING TO GET BIG TITS♡
MISTER, I HAVE THE SKIPPING ROPE, WHAT DO I DO WITH IT?
Where is he?
?
Hoo
ii

You and I, three minutes side by side.

*T/N: A SPREAD EAGLE IS A FIGURE SKATING MOVE WHERE A SKATER GLIDES ON TWO FEET WITH THE TOES POINTING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS. THE LEGS ARE COMPLETELY STRAIGHT AND SPREAD APART. THIS MOVE IS DONE ON OUTSIDE OR INSIDE EDGES.

**A BACKWARD JUMP IN FIGURE SKATING WITH A TAKEOFF FROM THE OUTSIDE EDGE OF ONE SKATE FOLLOWED BY A FULL TURN IN THE AIR AND A LANDING ON THE OUTSIDE EDGE OF THE SAME SKATE.

If you succeed in carrying out the figures I'm going to tell you as one goes along, you're the winner.
WHOOSH
FASCINATING...
MR. KOBAYASHI IS MANAGING WELL! HOWEVER, MR. TSUJIDO IS IN TOP FORM!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE...
THAT I SEE A COUPLE ICE SKATING WITH TWO MEN!

THAT'S STUPID! HONESTLY, WHAT'S THE POINT?
NOT BAD!
WHOOSH
IT'S CRAZY THAT YOU ARE GETTING ON MY NERVES!
WHAT ABOUT IT? IT'S YOUR PROBLEM, NOT MINE!
NON-SENSE!
I'M GOING TO TELL YOU WHAT I THINK YOU ARE NOT WORTHY TO TRAIN ERY!
IT'S NOT YOUR PLACE TO BE THE JUDGE OF THAT!

THIS IS HER DESIRE!
BECAUSE...
WHY WON'T YOU LET HER GO?!
Ery's field of vision (therefore the object of her desire)

WHOOSH
DOUBLE FLIP!
SLIIDE
JAB
!
AH!

CRAASHH
SLIDE
MISTER!

WELL DONE, MR TSUJIDO... YOU CAN BE PROUD OF YOURSELF!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN TO IMPLY EXACTLY?
Yes, I know that his legs are his weakness...
Yes, I chose this jump because great strength is needed in the lower body!
YES I'M A COWARD! I KNOW ABOUT IT!
MISTER, IT'S MAGNIFICENT! BRAVO!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME THAT I'VE SEEN YOU SKATING!
YOU ARE AS GOOD AS SATAKE!
AND YET YOU ARE NOT REALLY USED TO IT ANYMORE...
SHUT UP!

I LOST! I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO ADD!
BUT WE DON'T CARE WHO WINS! YOU WERE SPLENDID END OF STORY!
I LOST THE BET...
YOU CAN LEAVE!
BUT I HAVE NO WISH TO LEAVE!
PLEASE, LEAVE ME ALONE
NO WAY!
I LOVE YOU, DO YOU UNDERSTAND? I LOVE YOU!

DON'T TALK ABOUT SOMETHING YOU HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE ABOUT! YOU LOVE ME?! BUT YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT LOVE IS!
YOU SHOULDN'T VENT YOUR ANGER ON HER

YOU KNOW, YOU MIGHT ADORE HIM.
ANYWAY, I'M ONLY A...
FAILURE
That thing which has been worrying me for a long time...
BUT HIS HEART IS ALREADY TAKEN
YOU ARE TOO STRICT WITH YOURSELF. YOU ARE HURTING YOURSELF.
IT'S REALLY NONSENSE...
THIS JUMP WAS ONE OF YOUR FAVORITES MR TSUJIDO AND YOU
ARE ALMOST THE SAME AGE.

I love a man...
THEY WERE IN A CAR. HIS LEGS WERE HURT... AND MY SISTER DIDN'T SURVIVE.
MR. KOBAYASHI IS IN LOVE WITH MY OLDER SISTER...
SHE WAS WITH HIM...
THE DAY OF HIS ACCIDENT...
I'M GIVING UP!
I NEVER WANT TO BECOME ATTACHED TO SOMEONE... EVER AGAIN!
My feelings can never reach

Chapter 04

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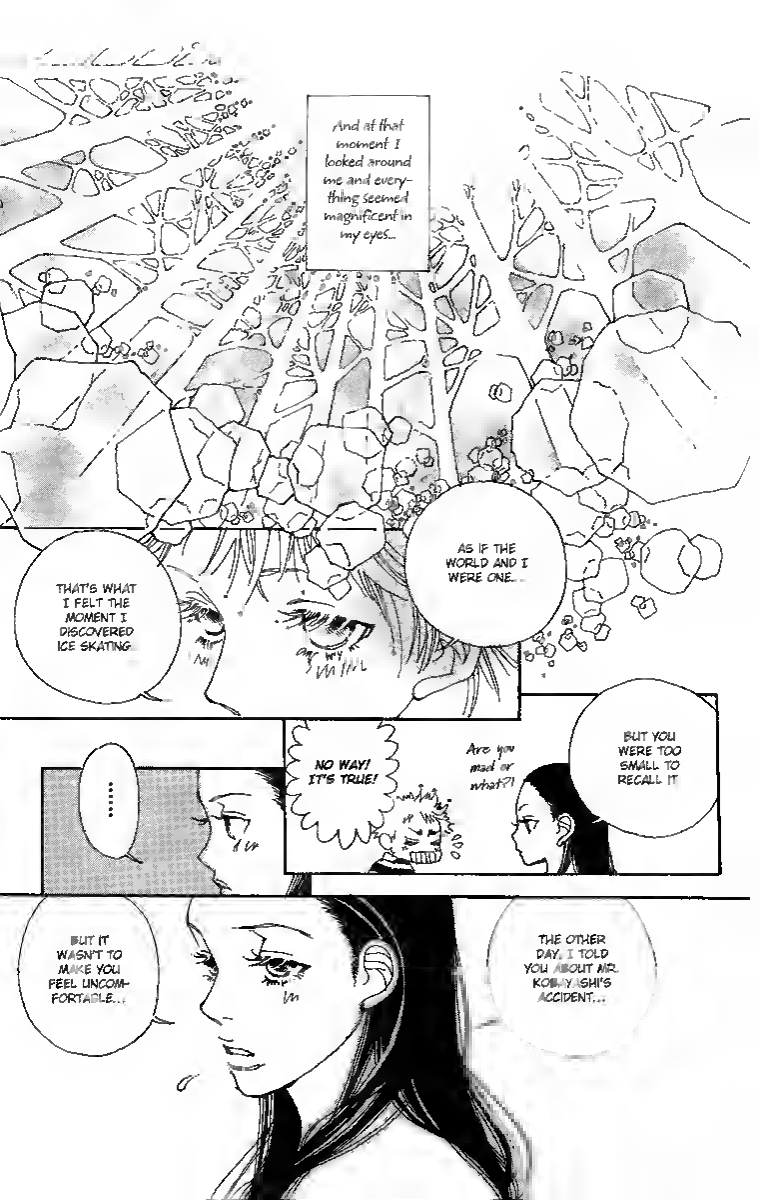
I felt he had a heavy secret.
ERY ARE YOU STILL WORKING ON LIMBERING UP TODAY?
HMM.
Don't talk about something you have no knowledge about!

I'm not the girl he loves, so...
FOR HIM.
I'll beyond a doubt never be able to give him back his smile
GOING TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES IS ONLY...
PAT
RUB RUB
LOOK WHAT I'VE BROUGHT YOU...
HEY THERE MISS!
BUT OH...
THOSE ARE PHOTOS FROM CANADA!
But very cute
THESE SKATES ARE STRANGE
THAT'S WHAT KIDS WEAR TO START OFF
IT'S A TYPICAL TRAIT FROM OVER THERE

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH AS THESE HERE...
NO, INDEED
YOU TAKE TWO BLADES AND ATTACH THEM TO YOUR SHOES
AH...
I REMEMBER!
I WAS FALLING DOWN ALL THE TIME... AND THEN...
I ENDED UP STANDING ERECT ON THE ICE...


And at that moment I looked around me and everything seemed magnificent in my eyes...
AS IF THE WORLD AND I WERE ONE...
THAT'S WHAT I FELT THE MOMENT I DISCOVERED ICE SKATING
BUT YOU WERE TOO SMALL TO RECALL IT
Are you mad or what?!
NO WAY! IT'S TRUE!
.....
THE OTHER DAY, I TOLD YOU ABOUT MR. KOBAYASHI'S ACCIDENT...
BUT IT WASN'T TO MAKE YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE...

in finding a better-paying job
It's about time I put some effort
SINCE THEN HE CHANGED
YOU KNOW EVERYONE THOUGHT HE WOULD BECOME A GREAT CHAMPION
AND THAT ACCIDENT ROBBED HIM OF BOTH ICE-SKATING AND HIS GIRL-FRIEND
TIME!
TIME
BUT AS TIME PASSES I'M SURE HE'LL REGAIN THE WILL TO LIVE
HOW DARE YOU?!
Unlike you!
OF COURSE!
PATIENCE! AFTER ALL, I'M YOUNG. I CAN TAKE MY TIME!
HEYO-OOOO!
AND I THOUGHT YOU FELT MISER-ABLE! YOU ARE ONE TO TALK! YOU KEPT IT QUIET!

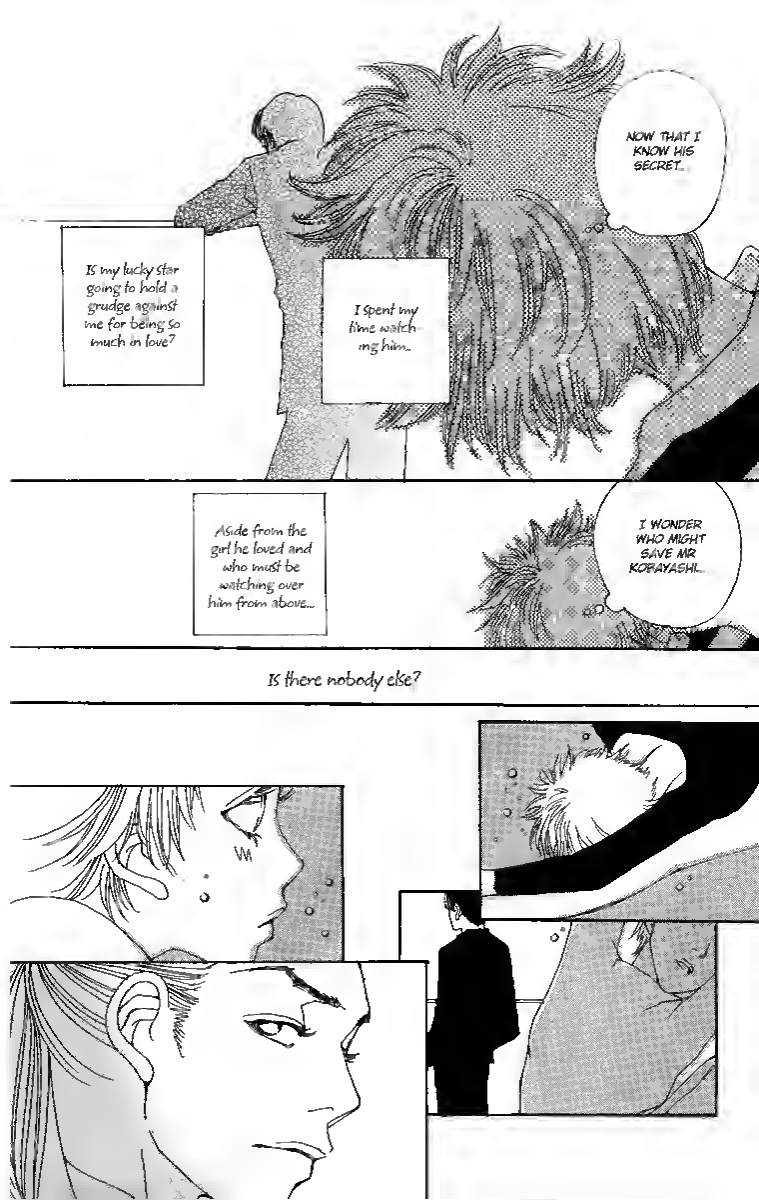
MAGNIFI-CENT!
IT'S SUPERB!
WHAT A DUO!
IT WOULD BE GOOD IF HE SWITCHES HIS CLUB AND COMES HERE.
IT LEAVES ME SPEECH-LESS
HU—FFF

ONE, TWO!
GOOD ANOTHER TWO SERIES
MISTER! I MADE THE BASIC EXERCISES THREE TIMES OVER
CAN I SKATE A BIT?
YOU KNOW, I COULD AS WELL DO THE LIMBERING UP AT HOME...
There-fore err...
YOUR BODY IS NOT IN SHAPE TO... YOU RISK INJURING YOURSELF
You are saying?
MH?

MISTER!
THESE EXERCISES, I CAN DO THEM ELSEWHERE! PLEASE...
LET ME SKATE!
JUST A LITTLE BIT...
IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY, STOP THEN!

NO! OUT OF THE QUESTION!
SIT
Wif
Huff!
Huff!
Huff!
Grr!
BUT THAT'S UNDERSTAND-ABLE...
THERE'S TENSION IN THE AIR...
WITH MR TSUJIDO WHO IS SKATING HERE! BESIDES HIS STYLE IS CLOSE ENOUGH TO MR KOBAYASHI'S ONE

When the weather was nice...
I loved going to school by passing through a small wood behind our house. A brook ran through it and you could catch sight of beavers during summertime.
But in winter, you had to be very careful.
SWOOSH
Sometimes I would sink in the still soft snow up to my hip. I couldn't move then. I really thought that I was going to die!
DESPITE APPEARANCES, IF THERE'S SOMEONE HERE,
WHO WOULD LOVE TO SKATE THE MOST, IT'S, WITHOUT A DOUBT, OUR OLD CHAMPION
In a second, he lost the two things he treasured most in his life...


NOW THAT I KNOW HIS SECRET...
I SPENT MY TIME WATCHING HIM...
IS MY LUCKY STAR GOING TO HOLD A GRUDGE AGAINST ME FOR BEING SO MUCH IN LOVE?
I WONDER WHO MIGHT SAVE MR KOBAYASHI...
ASIDE FROM THE GIRL HE LOVED AND WHO MUST BE WATCHING OVER HIM FROM ABOVE...
IS THERE NOBODY ELSE?

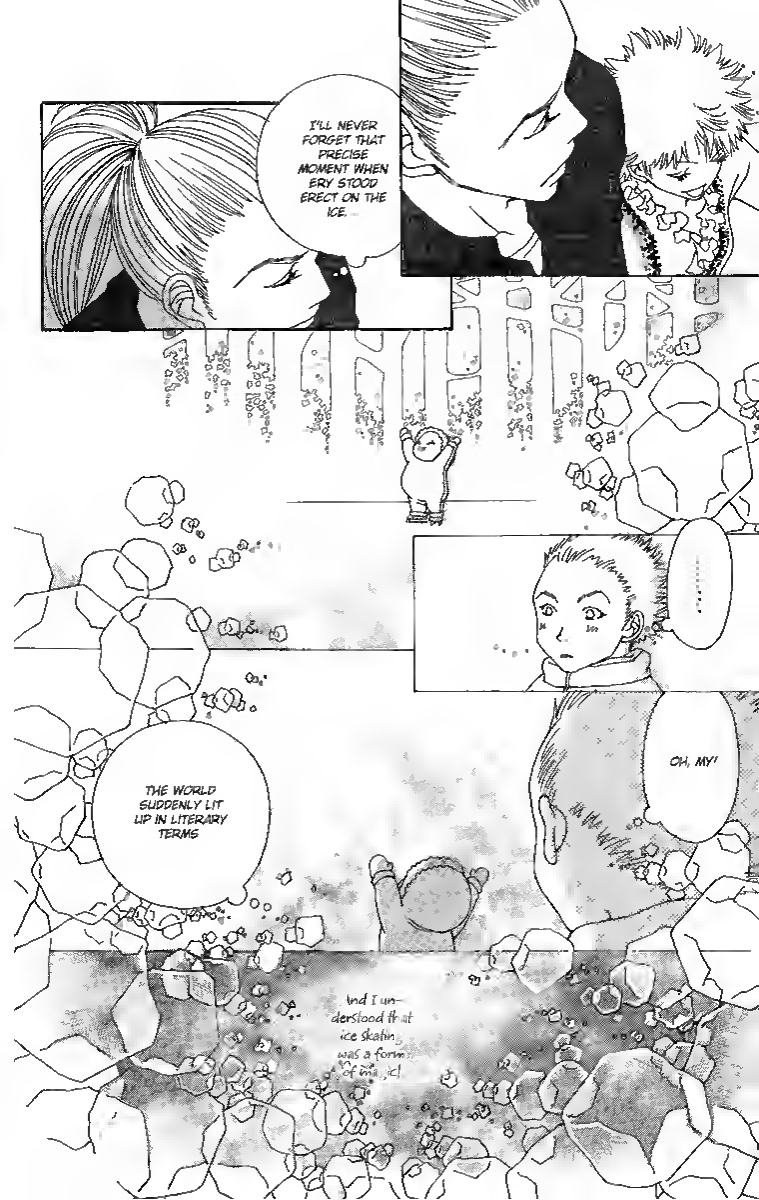
YOUR BIRTHDAY?
OH, REALLY?
TOMORROW IS...
HA HA
AS I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU!
I FORGOT THE DATE. IS THAT TRUE?
SO, LET'S SEE EACH OTHER TOMORROW TO CELEBRATE IT!
WELL, HAPPY BIRTHD
WHAT'S THE MATTER?! IT'S AN EXCEPTIONAL DAY AFTER ALL! THE DAY OF MY BIRTH! THAT MUST BE AN EVENT!
MM...
YOU BET! YOU ARE ONLY LIMBERING UP! IN ADDITION, IT'S MY BIRTHDAY!
BUT WHAT ABOUT MY LESSON...?
SHE'S SITTING
IT'S ONLY ONCE A YEAR! SO YOU WILL COME, OK?!
We don't give a damn about the rest!

WAAAAH HH!
KISS!

PAT
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? REGAINING YOUR STRENGTH?
YOU ACCUMULATED A HELL LOT OF STRESS ADMIT IT?

NOT AT ALL! I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE A MILLION BUCKS!
OH, REALLY?
IN THAT CASE, EVERY-THING IS FINE.
COME TO THINK OF IT...
HIS BIRTH-DAY...
HE HAS ALWAYS SAID IT WAS THE SAME DAY AS THE US INDEPEN-DENCE DAY.
SO IT'S NOT TODAY...
.....
DREAMS ARE REALLY NICE. BUT YOU DEVOTE TOO MUCH ENERGY TO IT FREELY
REMEMBER, IN THE PAST YOU PUSHED YOUR-SELF BEYOND YOUR LIMITS AND YOU FINALLY BROKE DOWN

OF COURSE, IT'S SUPER FRUSTRATING NOT TO BE ABLE TO SKATE AND TO CONTENT YOURSELF WITH LIMBERING UP AT THE EDGE OF THE RINK
BUT IT'S ONLY FOR A WHILE! YOU'LL SOON RETURN TO THE ICE RINK SO DON'T BE IMPATIENT...
IMPATIENT, ME?! ARE YOU JOKING?!
HA HA HA HA!
YES, WHAT AN IDEA!
EVEN NOW...
HE BEHAVES LIKE A BIG BROTHER TOWARD ME
HE WORRIES FOR ME BUT I SENSE THAT SOMETHING ELSE IS ON HIS MIND...
THANK YOU, SATAKE...


I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT PRECISE MOMENT WHEN ERY STOOD ERECT ON THE ICE...
.....
OH, MY!
THE WORLD SUDDENLY LIT UP IN LITERARY TERMS
And I understood that ice skating was a form of music!

Spring has come...
The small ice rinks are starting to melt and there was water everywhere. Our house was even inundated!
Help!
Ohh, no!
Flow Flow
Our neighbors don't have this problem. Aware of the phenomenon, they had made very little ice rinks. On the contrary, my dad thought big! Very big! And then, with Spring-
Help!
IT'S AT THAT MOMENT, I DECIDED TO BECOME A SKATER.
AND ALL MY LIFE, WHATEVER MIGHT ARISE...
I'LL CONTINUE TO PROTECT HER.

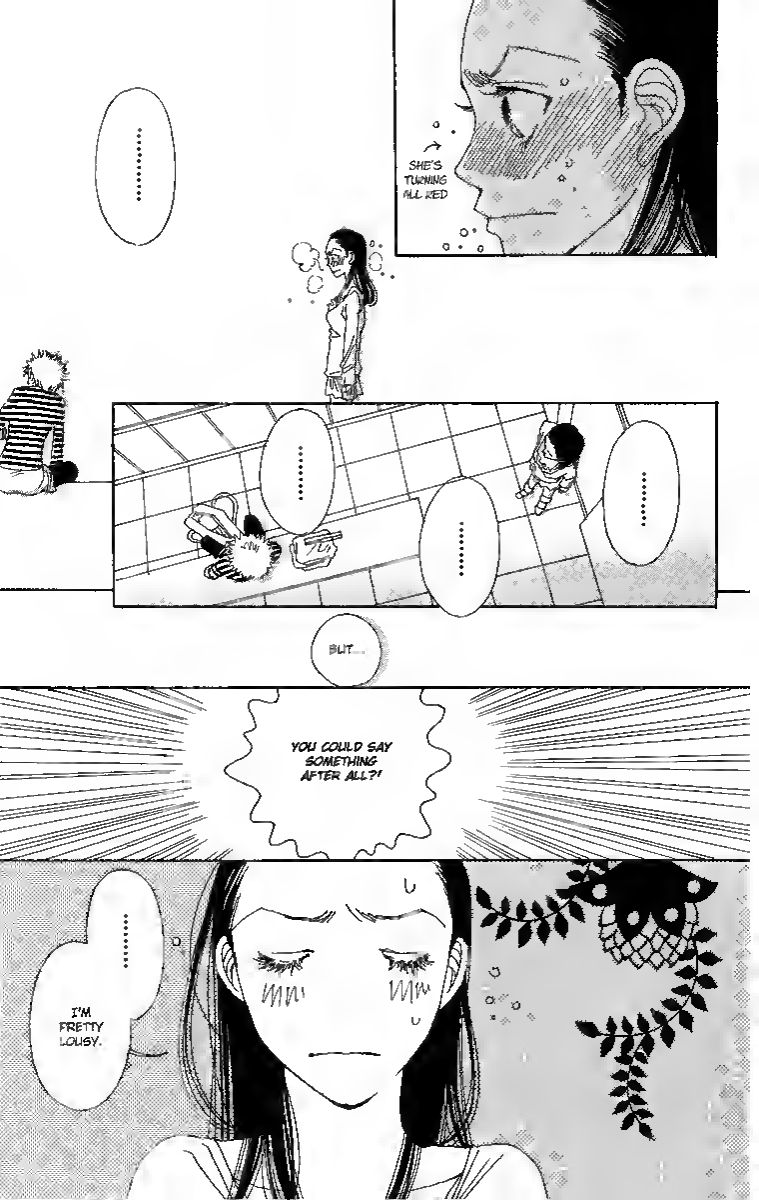
MAY I KNOW WHERE YOU WENT?! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN SKIP LESSONS WHENEVER YOU FANCY ON GOING?!
MISTER
PARDON ME...
Yes, chief! All right, chief!
ONE MISSED DAY AND YOU'LL NEED THREE MORE TO CATCH UP!
YOU NEED STEADFASTNESS. OR ELSE THERE'S NO POINT IN DOING SO!
LUMBERING UP IS THERE TO BE USED!
WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?
IS THAT UNDERSTOOD?!

YOU REALLY DON'T ALLOW HER ANY FREEDOM! LET HER GET HER BREATH BACK A LITTLE BIT!
WHAT?! THAT'S WRONG!
YOU THINK SO? HOWEVER, ERY WAS AWAY BECAUSE OF A DATE... WITH ME
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN!
YOU, SHUT UP!
YEAH, YOU'RE VERY CURIOUS!
HOWEVER, IT'S IMPORTANT FOR ME TO KNOW WHY YOU DIDN'T COME!
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO OUTSIDE OF THE CLUB...
OF COURSE IT IS! I'M THERE TO WATCH OVER ERY!
AND IT'S NOT YOUR BUSINESS EITHER!
ICE SKATING IS NOT A GAME!

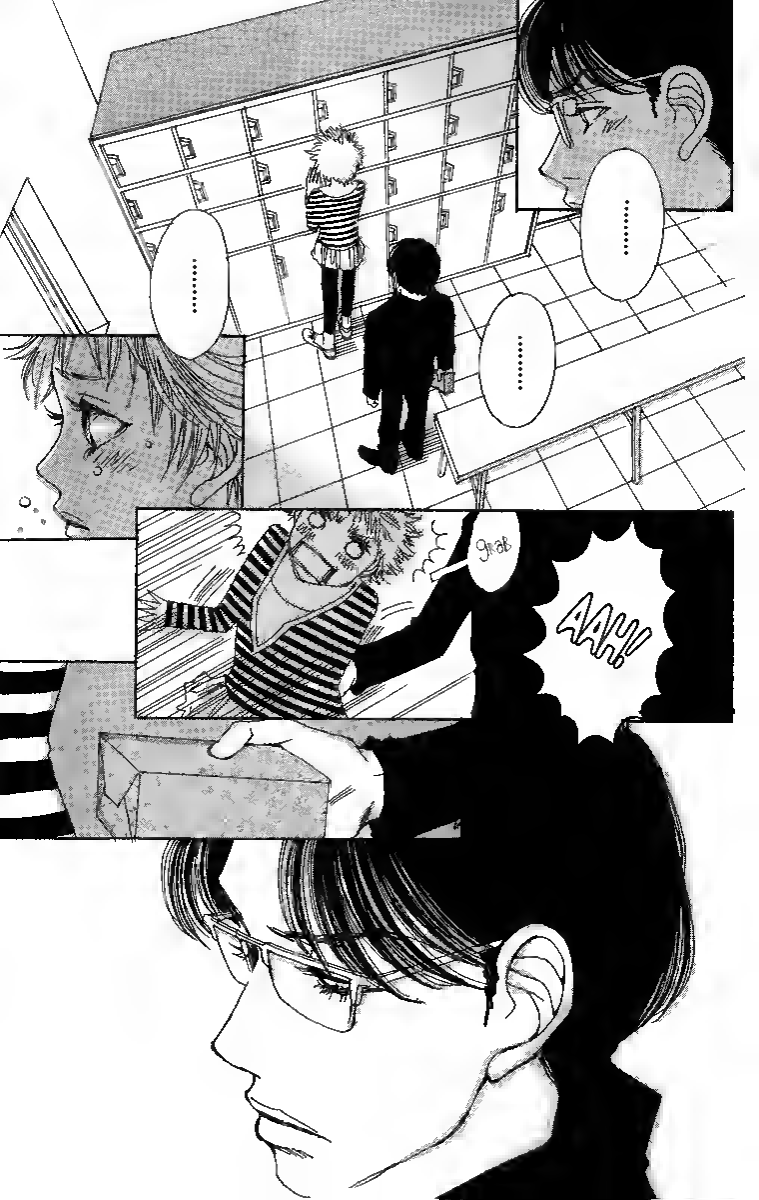
YOU PUT TOO MUCH PRESSURE ON HER!
AS A COACH, YOU SHOULD KNOW YET HOW TO TAKE CARE OF HER, RIGHT?
PLEASE DON'T
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME WHAT I SHOULD DO!
ERY, DON'T LISTEN TO HIM! THAT GUY IS JUST TRYING TO TRICK YOU!
BUT THAT'S THE TRUTH! HE'S DISHONEST! DON'T YOU SEE HE'S MANIPULATING YOU?!
NO! DON'T TALK BADLY ABOUT HIM!

VERY WELL! PERFECT! YOU'VE WON!
AND IF YOU DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO ME, YOU'D RATHER STOP RIGHT NOW!
IF THAT'S WHAT...
YOU WANT...
I'LL GIVE UP.

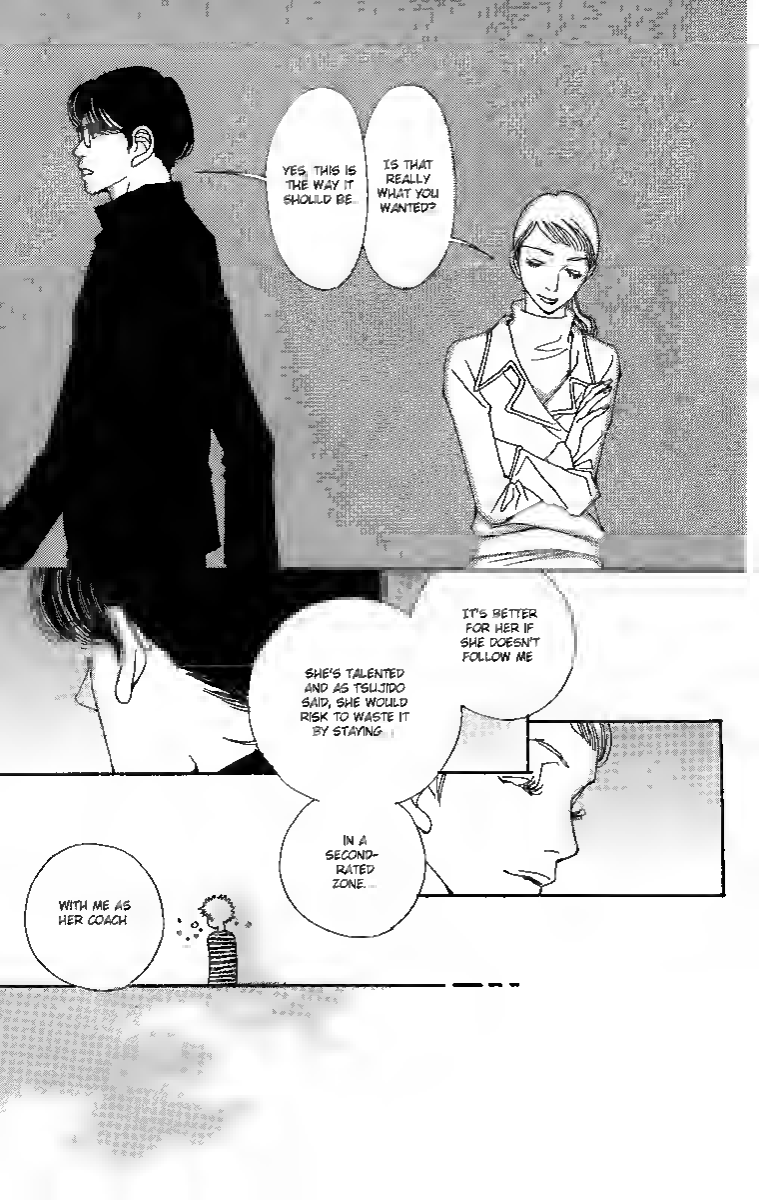
WAIT...
YOU'RE GIVING UP FOR GOOD?
.....
HUMPF
AS MY RIVAL
IT'S A PITY SINCE IT WAS RATHER EXCITING
TO HAVE YOU AS MY RI...

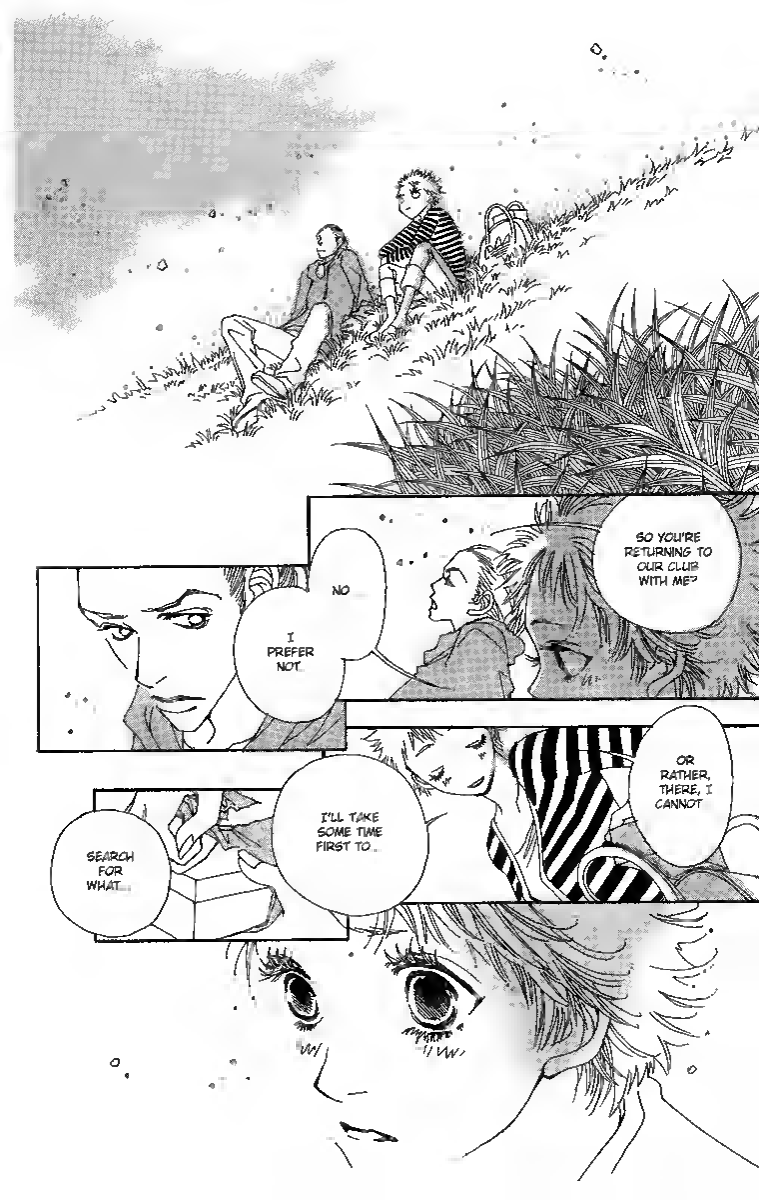

SHE'S TURNING ALL RED
.....
.....
.....
.....
BUT....
YOU COULD SAY SOMETHING AFTER ALL?!
.....
I'M PRETTY LOUSY.

I WANTED TO PREVENT HER FROM LEAVING AND INSTEAD I GOT EXCITED ABOUT THAT! IT'S GONNA SUCK FOR ME...
DEFINITELY BECAUSE...
YOU WERE REALLY ANGRY
OH, REALLY?
IT'S TRUE THAT I FEEL POWER-LESS...
WHATEVER I SAY SHE WILL NEVER CHANGE HER MIND! IN FACT...
IT'S NOT ME WHO SHOULD TALK TO HER...


……
……
……
3
2
1
grab
AAH!

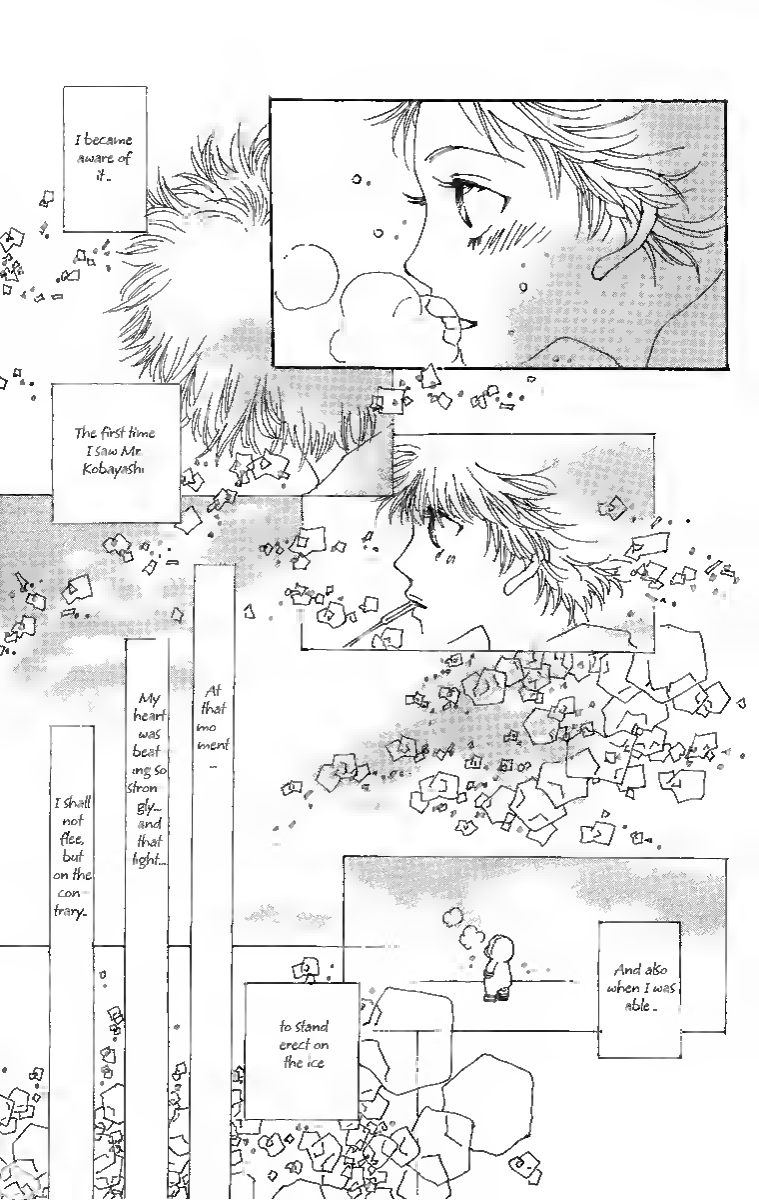
A PRESENT FOR YOU!
TO APOLOGIZE...
FOR SHOUTING AT YOU THE OTHER DAY AND ALSO...
TO SAY FAREWELL


YES, THIS IS THE WAY IT SHOULD BE.
IS THAT REALLY WHAT YOU WANTED?
IT'S BETTER FOR HER IF SHE DOESN'T FOLLOW ME
SHE'S TALENTED AND AS TSUJIDO SAID, SHE WOULD RISK TO WASTE IT BY STAYING
IN A SECOND-RATED ZONE...
WITH ME AS HER COACH


SO YOU'RE RETURNING TO OUR CLUB WITH ME?
NO
I PREFER NOT
OR RATHER, THERE, I CANNOT
I'LL TAKE SOME TIME FIRST TO
SEARCH FOR WHAT...

STAND UP

I had for-got-ten
that there is only one thing keeping me going!


I became aware of it.
The first time I saw Mr. Kobayashi
At that moment...
My heart was beating so strongly... and that light...
I shall not flee, but on the contrary.
to stand erect on the ice
And also when I was able.

become
one with
the world
surround-
ing me.

MR. KOBAYASHI!
I MADE A MISTAKE! I NEED YOU!
EVEN IF YOU DON'T NEED ME!
BECAUSE I LOVE YOU!
AND THAT'S ENOUGH TO...
AH...
BUT...
MAYBE YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT ME...

I DON'T THINK THAT I DON'T CARE... ABOUT YOU
HON-ESTLY...
And that's...
how girls...
make the world go round!
RUB-BISH!
YEAH IT'S HOPE-LESS...
ALL I'VE GOT LEFT IS TO ENROLL IN THIS CLUB!

IF ERY IS THERE, I HAVE NO WISH TO BE ANYWHERE ELSE... IT EVEN MAKES NO SENSE!
AND BESIDES...
YOU ARE RIGHT CONCERNING...
THE STRETCHING EXERCISES
I CAN GUESS WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND... YOU WANT ERY TO MASTER THE FIGURES SHE HAS TO KNOW, DON'T YOU?
THAT IS WHAT YOU SAY...
IT'S FRUSTRATING AFTER ALL...
THAT I CANNOT ADMIT...
KYOICHI KOBAYASHI IS MY IDOL!
Oh, yes! Come! Come!!

YES?
MAYBE
NO, IT'S NOTHING...
PERHAPS ERY KNEW FROM THE VERY START THAT SATAKE WOULD COME HERE?
WHAT AN ABSOLUTELY AMAZING GIRL...
She sincerely believes in the power of love...
THAT ERY!

SHE MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO GIVE MR KOBAYASHI HIS SMILE BACK
I know that one day...
this light burning brightly within me will allow...
all my loved ones to graze the sky!

Chapter 05 - Extra

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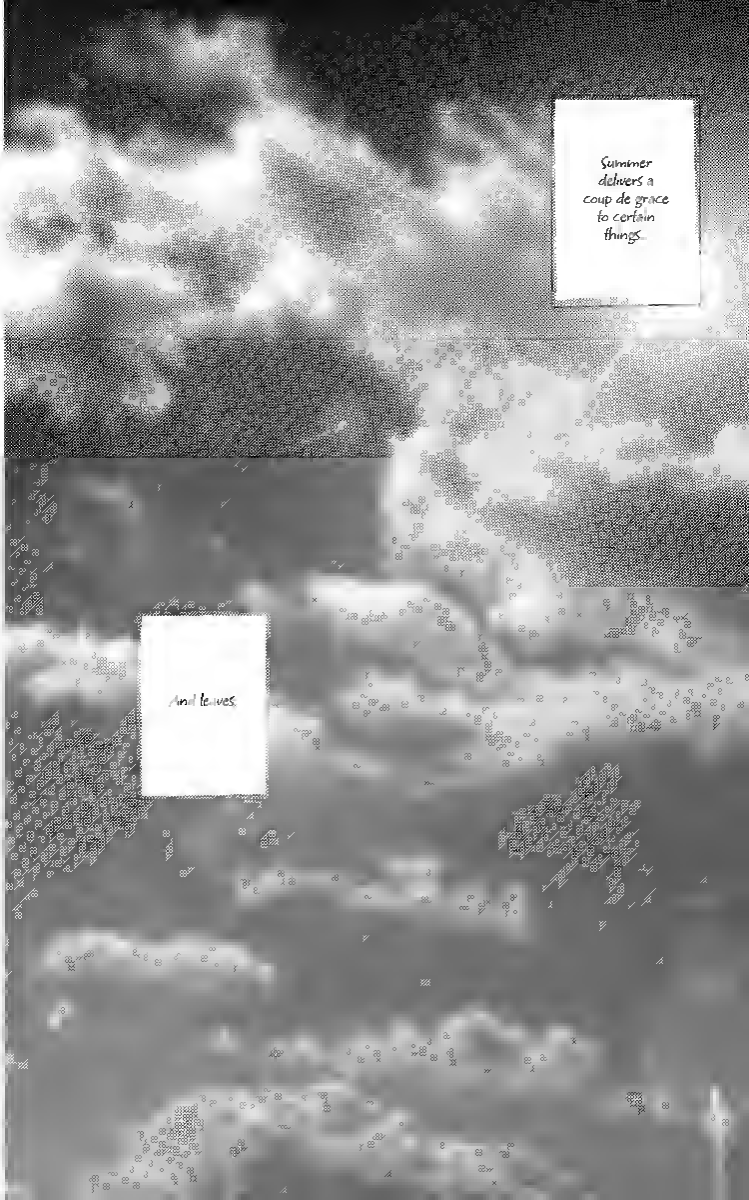
Summer Fairytales


Summer delivers a coup de grace to certain things...
And leaves.

DON'T BLABBER NON-SENSE!
The trees are sparing their strength in contemplation of winter.
I'M NOT BLABBER-ING NON-SENSE!
WHAT ELSE CAN I DO THEN?
which turns up sooner or later.
I'M TELLING YOU, YOU NEVER MEN-TIONED THIS TRAINING COURSE TO ME!
There's a feeling of impatience to let.
WE ARE ON A SUMMER HOLIDAY, YET YOU DROPPED ME SINCE THE BEGINNING.
all those exuberances sink in.

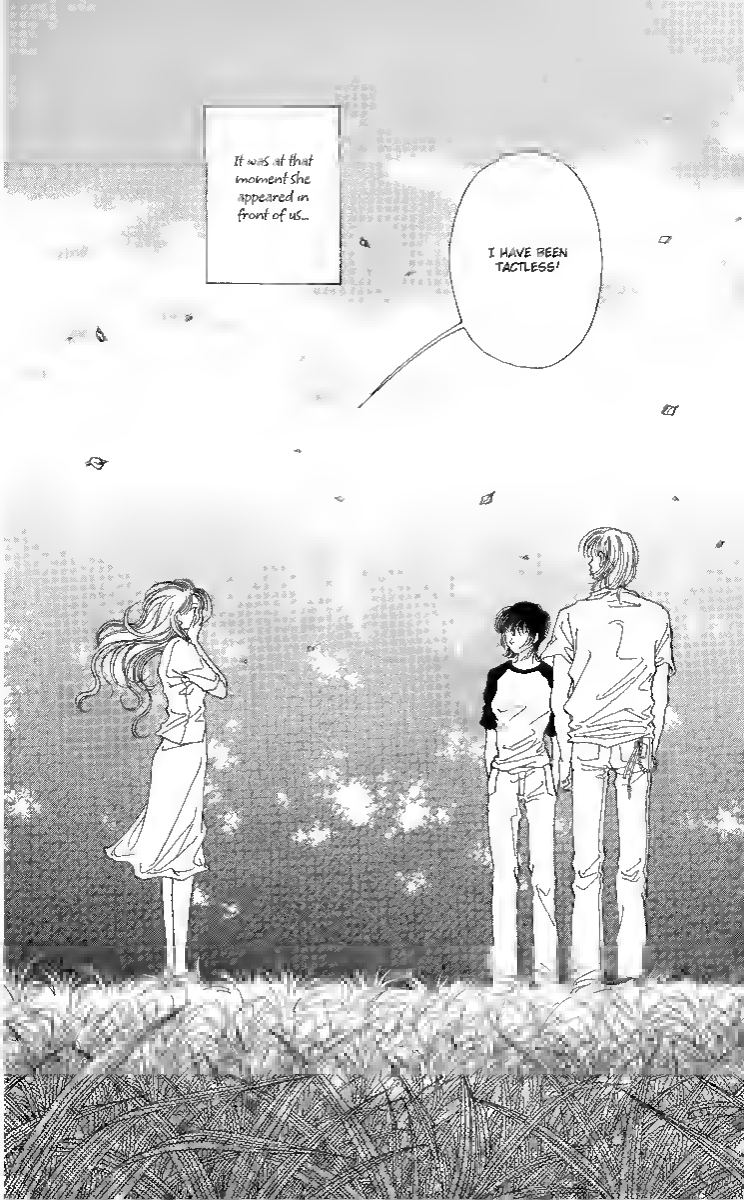
!
ME TOO...
The trees are triumphant...
YES, I'M SHORRY.*
I NEARLY ENDED UP ASKING YOU, "WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR YOU, THE CLUB OR ME?"
THIS WEEK...
THINKING ABOUT SUCH A THING
And I, I may lose...
COME ON, DON'T CRY!
I'M REALLY DISGUSTING...

*T/N: Yukino is lazy with words. Here, it seems he doesn't want to say the right word sorry. Instead he chooses the easier one. Shorry.

In summer that little twat..
IT'S OBVIOUS YOU ARE CRYING!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'M NOT CRYING!
The other couples look so joyful..
IT'S MY HEART WHICH IS SWELTERING.
When I think of what a disgusting being I am I can't keep myself from crying..
Fools!

OH!
EXPLAIN TO ME HOW YOU CAME UP WITH SUCH A THOUGHT?
HERE WE GO. OUR COUPLE IS ABOUT TO GO OFF...
OH, BOY!
AFTER ALL, YOU DIDN'T GIVE ME ANY REASON.
IT'S BEST IF WE SEPARATE.
ERR, SAY...

YOU ARE MR SENO YUKIO... AND MISS MAYUZUMI KAORI, AREN'T YOU?
YES!!
REALLY?!
BUT?!
BUT?!
WHAT SHALL I DO?


It was at that moment she appeared in front of us...
I HAVE BEEN TACTLESS!

Sniff Sniff
"Please"!
"I have some thing I have to ask you"!
"Keep me by your side for some time"

SHE'S REALLY STARTING TO FALL ASLEEP...
SHE MUST BE VERY TIRED!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN.
"Don't get me wrong, I'm not crazy!"
BUT WHO'S THIS GIRL?
IDEA".
*T/N: Yuki is lazy and stuttering here. It really means: No idea!
"I can't really explain to you why."
BUT WE MUST HELP HER, I THINK.
.....
MAYBE WE HAVE ALREADY MET HER BEFORE AND WE JUST DON'T REMEMBER IT?
HAVE YOU SEEN HER PREVIOUSLY?
WELL...

AND NOW WE ARE GOING TO BREAK UP!
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR ALREADY ONE YEAR.
YEAH
IF SHE KNOWS BOTH OF US WE HAVE SURELY CROSSED HER PATH OVER THE YEAR.
.....
NONE
DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE FRIENDS WHICH WOULD MATCH THE DESCRIP-TION....
SHE CAN STAY AT MY PLACE FOR NOW!
BESIDES, I'M A BIT CONCERNED ABOUT HER....
SHE DOESN'T LOOK WEIRD.
GOOD MORNING!

YAAAWN...
I'm not in a good mood when waking up.
HELLO!
IT'S RATHER ME WHO SHOULD RESOLVE MYSELF TO EVERYTHING
I'M STAYING HERE!
I HAVE MADE A RESOLUTION!
KAORI!
There's nothing worth stealing, anyway.
WELL, NOTHING GOT STOLEN.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S ALREADY FALL. IT SO HOT.
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
Actually, I'm worried about her, too
HERE YOU GO. I BOUGHT SOMETHING TO EAT FROM THE MINI-MARKET
.....
That bad mood is not only stemming from me..
Eh?

HOW DO YOU OPEN THIS?
WHAT?
You do it
this way.
CLANK
...!
We'll never have a spectator!!
What's this?
That jackass Yukio plays Romeo in front of his future conquest and under my nose.
ALL RIGHT, NOW LET'S EAT!

WHAT?
OH, REALLY?
YOU INTEND ON GOING TO THE SAME CLUB, EVEN TODAY?!
YOU ARE PLAYING TENNIS?
.....
OH?
AN AMATEUR AND A BAD PLAYER
YEAH, EXACTLY! DESPITE APPEARANCES, I WAS WELL KNOWN IN HIGH SCHOOL. .
YOUR TRAP!
SO IF YOU CONTINUE PLAYING TENNIS.....
Ha ha

YOU'LL RETAIN A FLAT STOMACH WHILE AGING
ERRR...
EXACTLY!
.....

I'VE GOT TO LEAVE IN ORDER TO TRAIN FOR THE FUTURE!
HA HA! YOU GOT EVERY-THING RIGHT!
HELL, YES THAT'S THE REASON I'M PLAYING!
OHH, OHH IT'S ALREADY TIME TO GO!
Pat
.....
.....
KAORI, LET'S DO SOME SHOPPING, SHALL WE?

SHOP-
PING!
.....
I'M LETTING MYSELF BE CONSUMED BY HER ENERGY
OH, SO CUTE!
BUT IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I HAVE BEEN SHOPPING
OH, THAT DOESN'T LOOK BAD!
DO YOU LIKE THIS KIND OF JEWELRY?
ERR...
IN FACT... NOT ESPECIALLY...

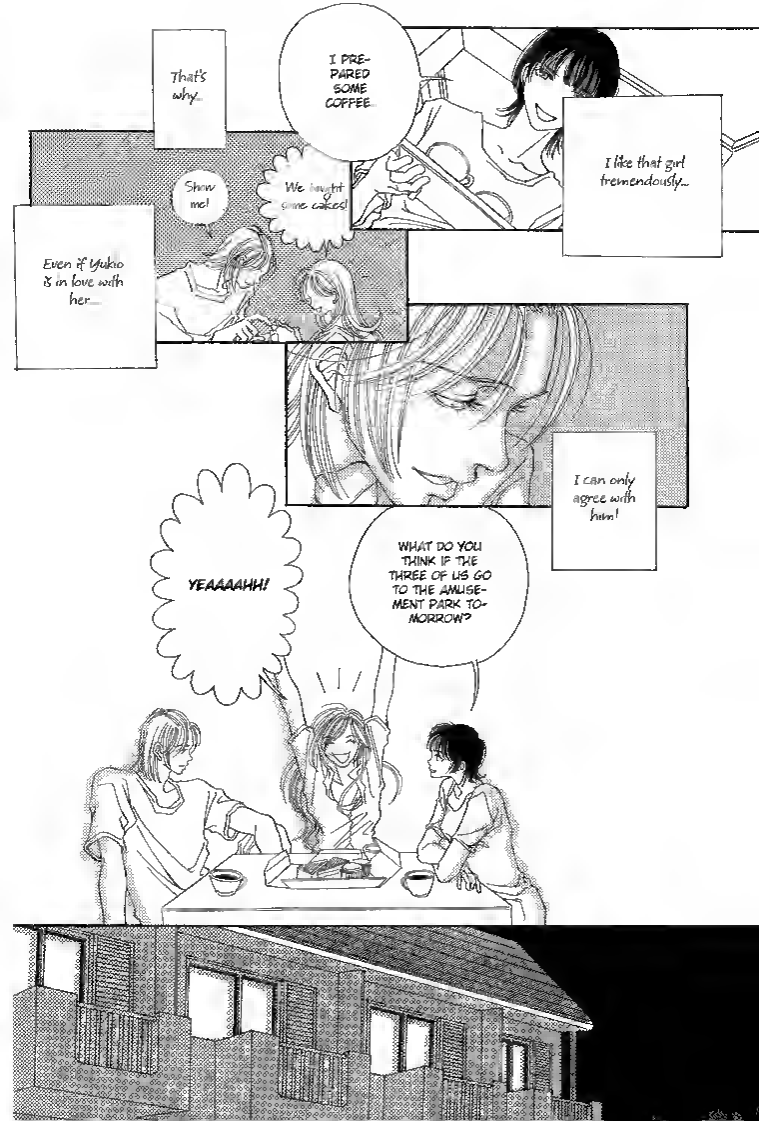
I ONLY PROVIDED YOU WITH SHELTER AT MY HOUSE FOR ONE NIGHT!
YES, BUT I WANTED TO OFFER YOU A PRESENT...
COME ON, WEAR IT!
WOW!
IT SUITS YOU VERY WELL!
RAVISHING!
TRULY RAVISHING!
OH, REALLY! WHY NOT A MATCHING HAT...
WAI...
KAORI!!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?
Flap
Flap

Hahahaha!

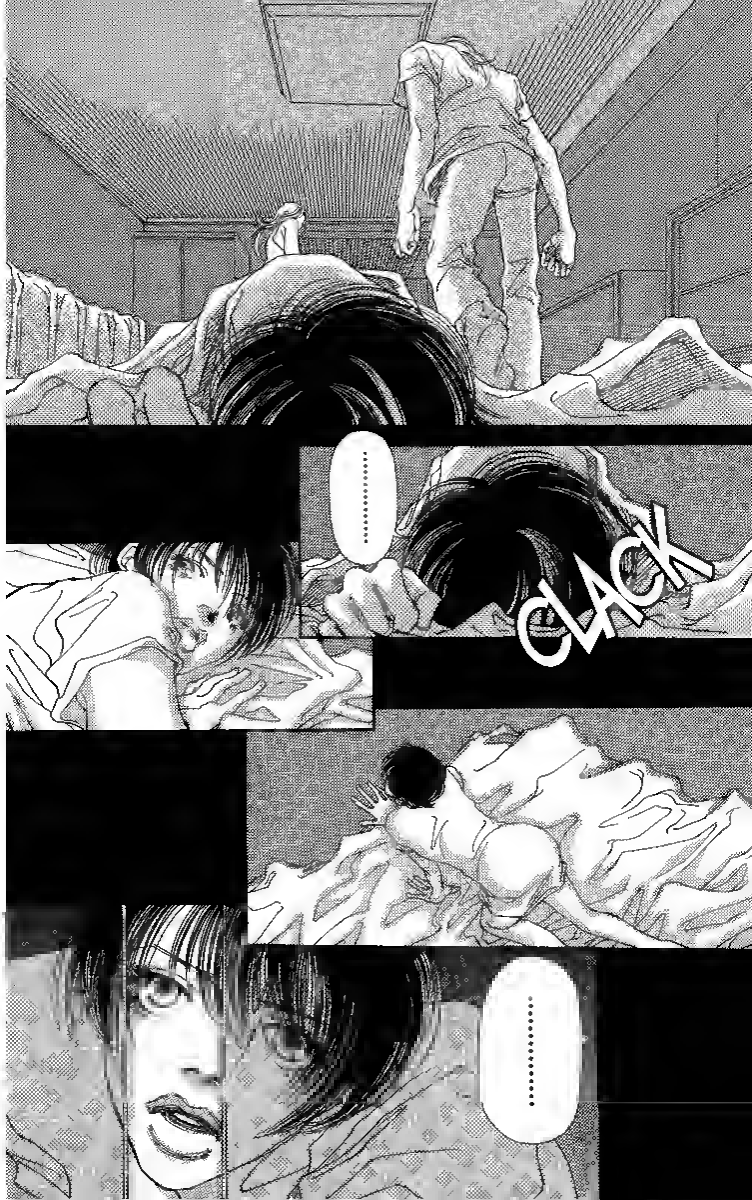
Eventually, she's not unpleasant
STRANGE
STRANGE
STRANGE
KAORI...
Far from it.
DO YOU LOVE YUKIO VERY MUCH?
!
DO YOU LOVE HIM?
He he he
ERR, YES THAT'S WHY WE ARE TOGETHER...
YOU REALLY LIKE HIM?

.....
DO YOU ACCEPT THAT YOUR BOY-FRIEND SPENDS HIS TIMES PLAY-ING TENNIS?
THAT'S A GREAT LOVE!
BUT I DON'T ACCEPT IT!
IT'S A GREAT LOVE...
TERRIFIC!
AH, THERE YOU ARE AGAIN!

YES, IT'S US!
WE ARE BAAACK!
TODAY WE WENT SHOPPING!
THEN WE PAUSED AT A CAFE...
AND WENT TO THE CINEMA. WE ENDED UP AT A PARK!
WE HAD AN EXCELLENT DAY!
Well I give up!

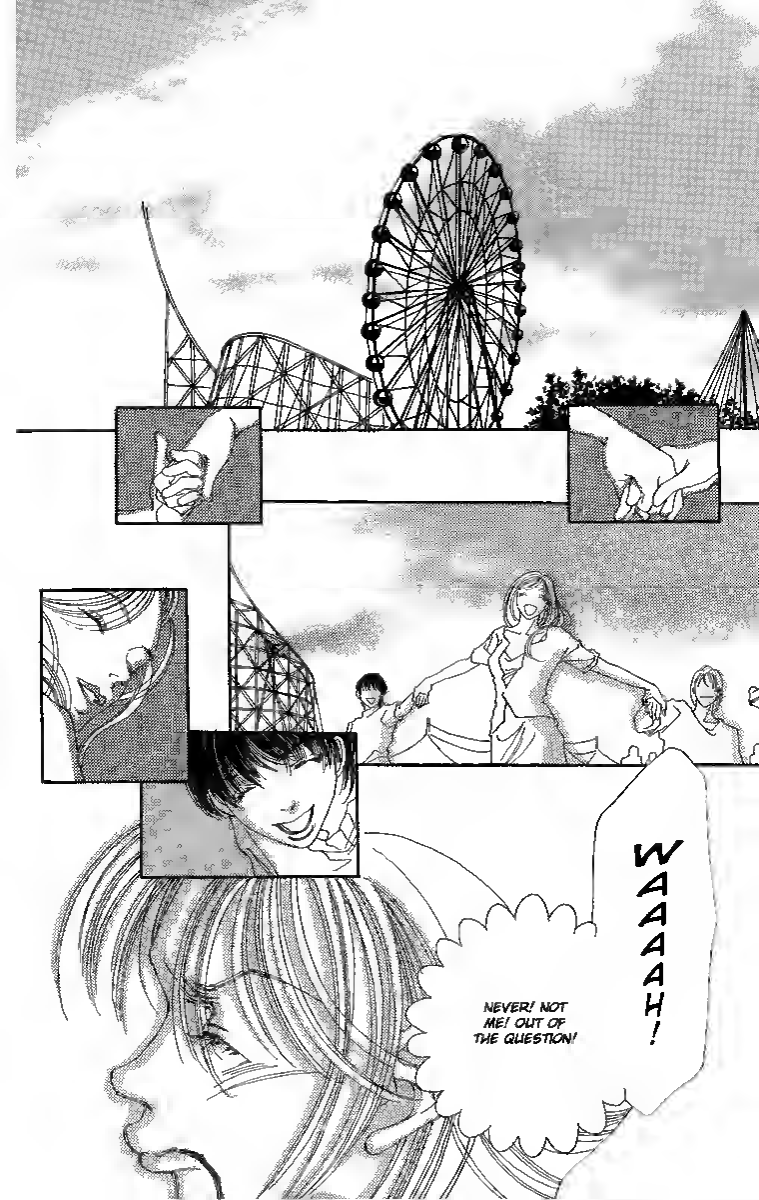

I like that girl tremendously...
I PREPARED SOME COFFEE
That's why...
Show me!
We bought some cakes!
Even if Yukio is in love with her...
I can only agree with him!
WHAT DO YOU THINK IF THE THREE OF US GO TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK TOMORROW?
YEAAAAHH!

Wee-
wee
.....


……
CLACK
……

Sssh
Shh
At that moment
perfect bliss awoke.
Sssh
ssh
sshh

And the whole world is singing his praise. So it seems.
sshh
sshh
sshh
sshh
sshh
sshh
sshh
sshh
including me...


WAAAAH!
NEVER! NOT ME! OUT OF THE QUESTION!

ROLLER COASTER
ENTRY
NEVER IN MY LIFE!
NO!
NO!
NO!
HYAAAAA.
Say Yuka
We shouldn't be in a huff.

hey
hey
hey
hey
hey
hey
hey
hey
But all this is of so little importance..
Because we are happy now..
DAIRY ICE CREAM!

HYAAA!
Whoooosh
!
BE CAREFUL, THE WIND IS RISING!

LISTEN!

NEVER FORGET ABOUT ME!
I SPENT MARVELOUS MOMENTS WITH YOU!
IT WAS FANTASTIC!
I'M SO HAPPY...
TO HAVE SPEND ALL THIS TIME WITH YOU...
REALLY!
OH... NO!
I NEVER EXPECTED FOR IT TO HAPPEN SO FAST...

Don't forget me.

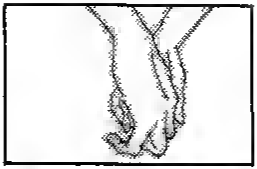
Because I... both of you
I love you...
.....
UH!

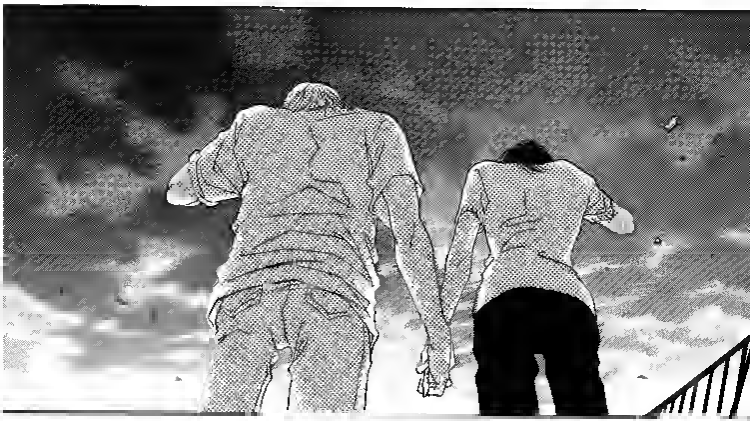
BOOHOOO!
COME ON, DON'T CRY!
BUT IT'S JUST THAT...
I'M SO SAD!
!
BOOHOOO!

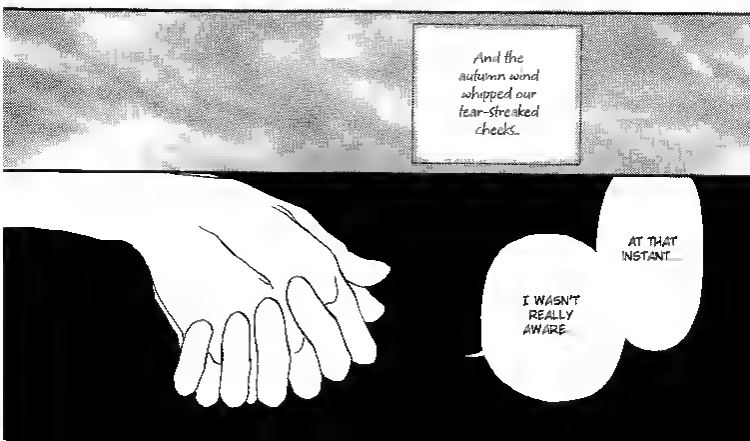
BOOOHOOO!
THEY'VE PROBABLY LOST THEIR WALLET...
SSHH!
MAMA! LOOK HOW THEY'RE CRYING...
Yes.
Unques-tionably...
We have just lost a very dear presence...

Very dear...

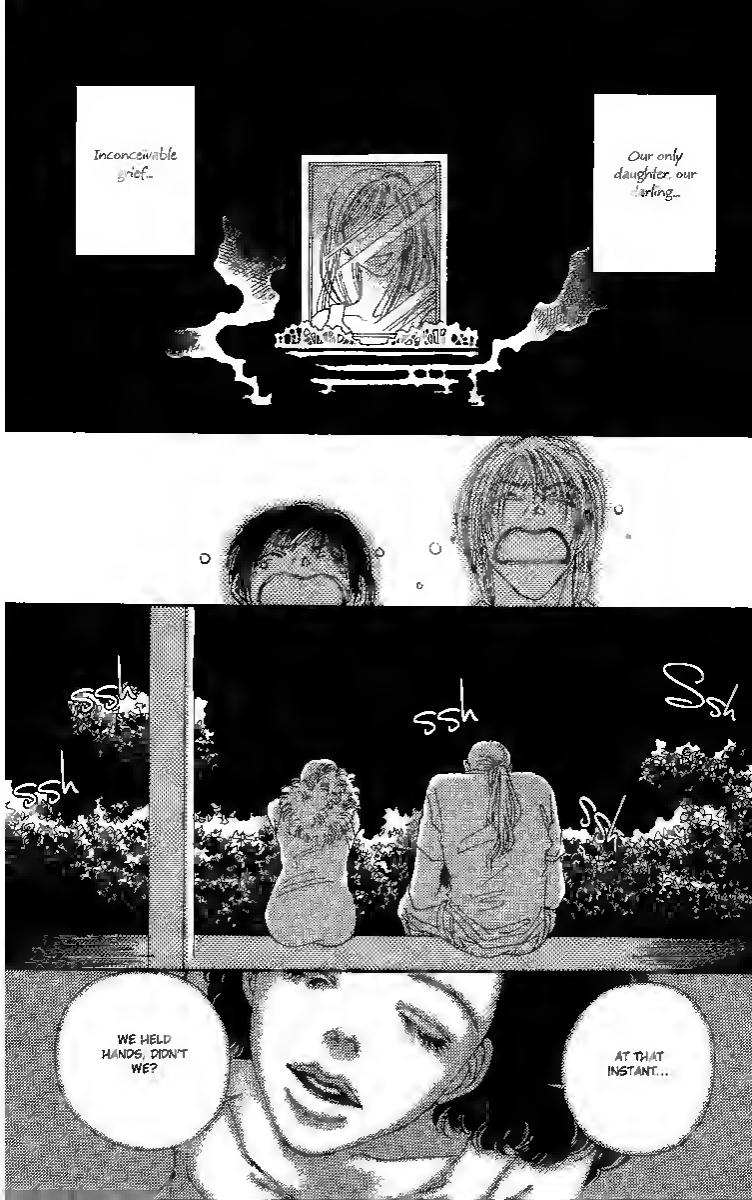
To our hearts...





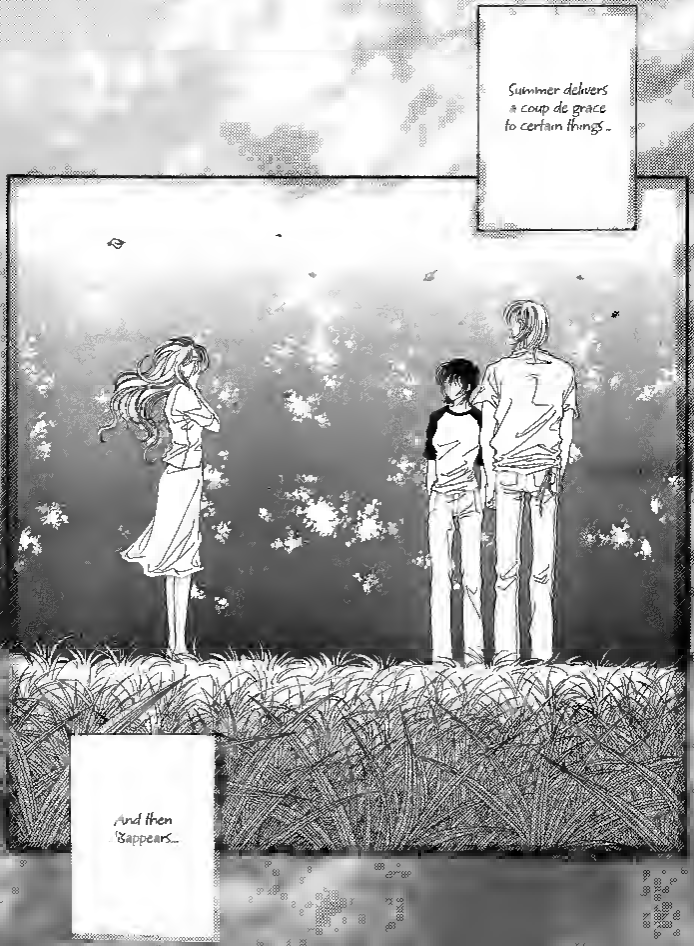


THAT I WAS SIMPLY SAD
WITHOUT REALIZING THE REASON FOR IT AND I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND IT...
Sssh
shh
BUT...
IT WAS HER, I'M SURE OF IT
RIGHT, YUKIO?
.....
A terrible plane accident...
Twenty years later...


Inconceivable grief...
Our only daughter, our darling...
ssh
ssh
ssh
ssh
WE HELD HANDS, DIDN'T WE?
AT THAT INSTANT...

YES.
IT'S STRANGE...
IF WE HADN'T HELD HANDS AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT...
WE WOULDN'T HAVE BECOME WHAT WE ARE AT PRESENT TIME...
SOMETIMES, I THINK ABOUT IT...
BUT...
LET'S SAY SHE CHOSE THE WRONG MOMENT WHEN SHE PAID US HER LAST VISIT.
THIS IS JUST LIKE NATSUMI!

.....
YES...
Ssh
Ssh
Ssh
Ssh
Thus...
Ssh
Ssh
Ssh
Because...
Let's overcome Summer


Summer delivers a coup de grace to certain things...
And then Sappears...